

AZNAVORIAN & SIVRISARIAN,
MANCHESTER.

ARARAT.

A SEARCHLIGHT ON ARMENIA.

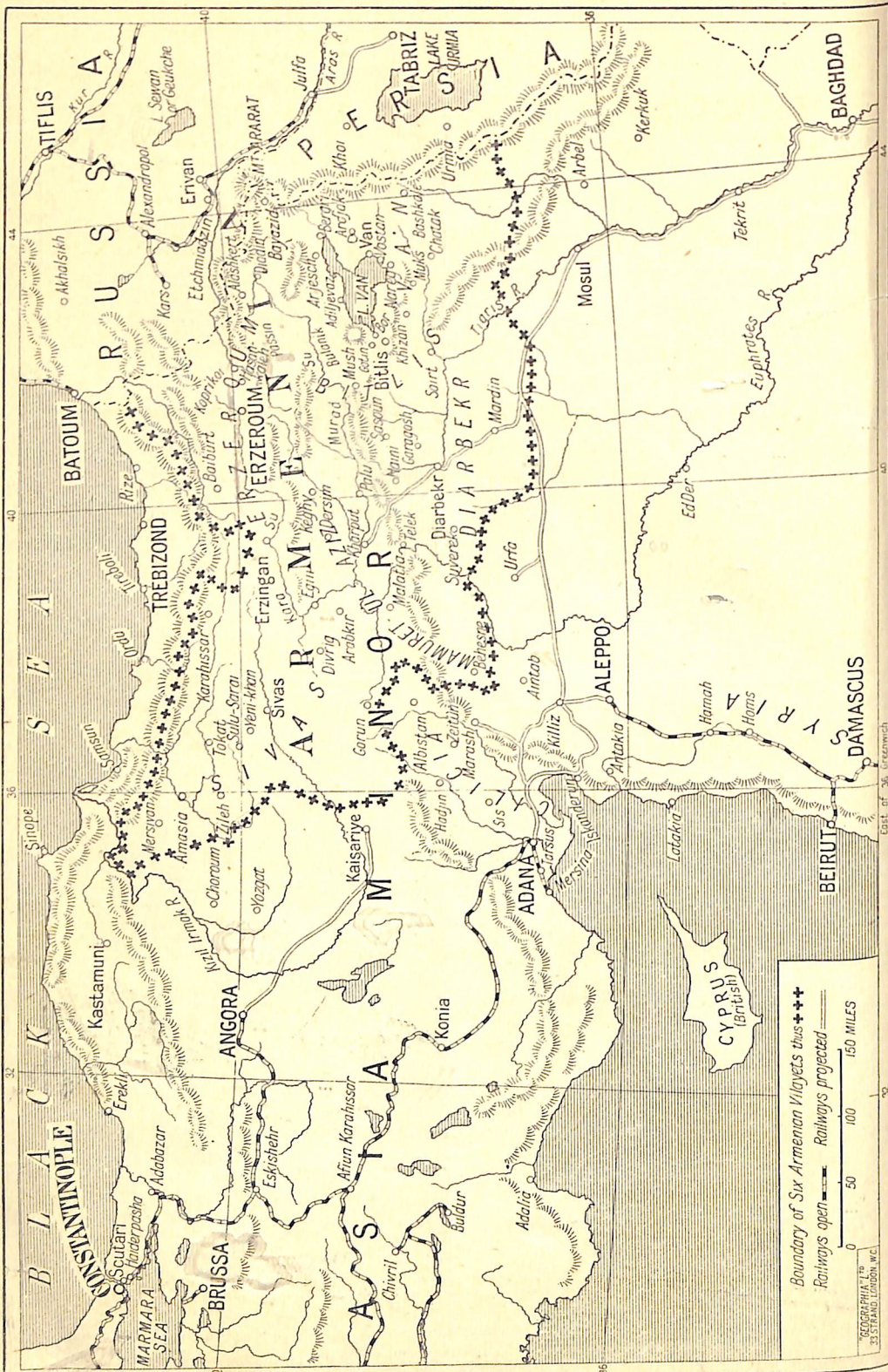
Vol. III. No. 25. London : JULY, 1915.

Price 6d.

Annual Subscription 6 Shillings.



All communications affecting this periodical should be addressed to the Editor, "Ararat," The Armenian United Association of London, 44, Queen's Road, Bayswater, London, W.



Telephones—1599 Central and 3646 City.

JESSE BROAD & Co. Ltd.,

STATIONERS,

Letterpress and Lithographic
Printers,

Account-Book Manufacturers,

Oxford Works: Gt. Bridgewater St.,
Manchester.

Sets of Account Books Ruled and Bound to
Special Patterns.

SHIPPERS SUPPLIED.

PHILIP HUMFREY & Co.,

GENTLEMEN'S HOSIERS AND
PRACTICAL SHIRTMAKERS.

OUR SPECIALITY:—

SILK LONG SCARVES,

For Ring, Pin or Knot,
cut on the straight to size of collar.

Sole Agents for Manchester University Colours.

61, CROSS STREET, Manchester.

ESTD 1620

JACONETS
LAWNS
MANSOOKS
CAMBRICS
LONGCLOTHS
SHIRTINGS
TWEELS
DRESS
MATTINGS
GALATEAS
CARNADOS
COMPANIAS
GINGHAMS
ZEPHYRS
FANCY DRESS
GOODS
FANCY SHIRTINGS
MADRAPOLLAMS
PLAIN MUSLINS
FANCY MUSLINS
BROCADES
CASEMENT CLOTH
SATTEENS
VELVETEENS
COTTON HANDS

TEL. ADDRESS JONROB, MANCHESTER
PHONE 2860 CITY

JONES BROTHERS LTD

ESTD SOL TESTO

REGISTERED TRADE MARK

SPINNERS & MANUFACTURERS

12 YORK STREET
MANCHESTER
MILLS, LEIGH LANCASHIRE

FACTORY,
BELFAST.

SPECIALITIES

- "MERSILKA" & "ALYTA" HANDKS
- "AERO" CLOTH FOR AEROPLANES
- "VELUNA" CLOTH FOR LITHO PRINTING
- "SELVYT" POLISHING CLOTH & SPECIALITIES
- THE "JAY BEE" SHEETINGS
- THE "JAY BEE" FLANNELETTE

MANCHESTER

LEIGH, LANCASHIRE

BELFAST

ALSO AT
LONDON, GLASGOW,
PARIS, BERLIN
& SWITZERLAND.

Our new Printed Imitation Mercerised
"SILCOON" Handkerchiefs are highly recom-
 mended for strength and durability.

Our famous "MERSILKA" Handkerchiefs,
so well-known all over the World, are just as
popular as ever and a splendid substitute for
silk.

The "SELVYT" POLISHING CLOTHS
AND DÜSTERS, superior to chamois leather
and as good as new when washed.

ARARAT.

A SEARCHLIGHT ON ARMENIA.

Vol. III. No. 25. London: JULY., 1915. Price 6d.

Annual Subscription 6 Shillings.

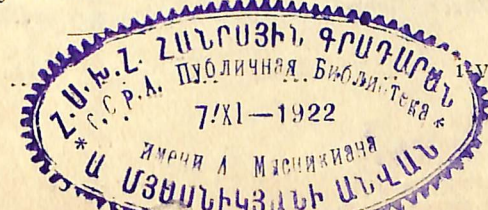
CONTENTS.

	PAGE
1. Current Notes	3
2. Russia and Armenia. <i>The Orange Book</i> .—V. ...	7
3. The Situation in Armenia, by A. S. SAFRASTIAN	10
4. The Doyen of Armenia's British Champions	16
5. The Right Honble. Viscount Bryce, O.M., D.C.L., LL.D.	17-18
6. The Appeal of the "Huntchakists"	20
7. Armenian Refugees' Relief Fund	22
8. The Armenian Red Cross and Refugee Fund, by EMILY J. ROBINSON	24
9. Armenian Ladies' Guild of London	25
10. Local Jottings— <i>Calcutta</i>	28

Literary Section.

11.	Lemberg and Armenians, by G. THOUMAIAN	30
12.	Mekhitar, or a Plea for the Study of Armenian Literature by DESMOND MCAULIFFE	36

13. Advertisements



Current Notes.

We are passing another landmark in our onward course, and the issue of the first number of our Third Volume is an event of no small moment in our venture of two years ago, which we undertook with many heart-failings. *Ararat* has filled a distinct void, and has now become the permanent organ for Armenian news and Armenian thought in all English-speaking colonies where our countrymen dwell, and for this success we are indebted mainly to the support of our subscribers scattered throughout the world, whose kindly encouragement, ever pouring in upon us, has spurred us on to improve and expand. In the past twelve months we have more than doubled our list of subscribers, contributions come in much more freely, and patriotic interest has gone hand in hand with personal effort to secure for us advertisements, without which few periodicals can pay their way. We had hoped to publish this number with a new and artistic cover, the work of an Armenian hand, but the completion of details connected with the fine work has unfortunately delayed its production for a month or so. In launching our third volume before our readers, we do so with renewed confidence in their support and assistance, and ask them again not to relax their efforts in sending us news from all parts of the world, which would be of special interest to Armenians; to secure additional subscribers; and to supply us with original literary matter suitable for our pages.

The world war still rages without intermission on all fronts, and he would be a prophet indeed who could foretell when its horrors will cease and mankind revert again to a normal state of existence. Within the last month the thoughts of all have been concentrated on the precarious position of the Russian armies under terrific German onslaughts. We have ever written in a spirit of optimism, and doubt not that our great Ally of the East will rally in such a way as not only to keep the Germans at a respectful distance from Warsaw, but to carry out that process of attrition on their numbers which is the fundamental basis on which the Allies rely for breaking the power of the Central Empires. Though little has been reported as to progress in the Dardanelles, we have good grounds for believing that Turkish spirit is gradually being broken, and that the day is not far distant when Constantinople will lie at the mercy of the combined British, French and Russian fleets and armies, and there will then open up a new and a promising outlook towards the general conduct of the war. For the aspect of affairs in Armenia itself, which are black indeed for the moment, we would refer our readers to the article specially allotted to it.

We announced, as we were going to press last month, the arrival in London of His Excellency Boghos Pasha Nubar, the head of the Armenian National Delegation appointed by His Holiness the Catholicos. He had no doubt spent a useful month in Paris in preparing the ground regarding the future destiny of the Armenian question among French authorities, and his visit to London obviously had a similar purpose. Matters diplomatic are not blazoned from the house-tops, and we have no right to enquire how His Excellency fared, or what measure of support he is receiving towards the fulfilment of Armenian aspirations, though it is well known that these aspirations extend to the formation of an autonomous Armenia, made up of the six vilayets and Cilicia. A three weeks' sojourn must, however, have been sufficient to satisfy him as to the trend of British sympathies towards Armenia, and he was able to return to his headquarters in Paris on Friday last, June 23rd. Without being too curious as to the impression made on him in London, it would be no breach of confidence to say that the Chief Delegate's naturally genial temperament had a heightened touch of briskness about it as he stepped into his train; nor did a depressing downpour of rain at the moment of his departure damp in any degree the happy satisfaction, playing about his features, in good work done. True journalism, which has to guess at the secrets of diplomacy, watches the motion of straws to form its conclusions, and we have watched ours and the augury is good. The matter cannot be settled until the Peace Congress assembles; in the mean time Armenians may rest assured that their cause is in good hands. We have always referred to His Excellency as the Chief Delegate, who holds the threads of the mission and is the principal worker; we should mention that the other members of the Delegation are Archbishop Utudjian of Manchester, Yakub Artin Pasha of Cairo, and Mr. H. N. Mosditchian of London.

By the creation of the new Sultanate of Egypt, all the old Turkish grades and decorations have necessarily been cast into the melting-pot, and new Orders have appeared. From these latter His Highness the Sultan of Egypt has been pleased to confer on His Excellency Boghos Pasha Nubar the First Class of the Order of the Nile. This is the highest Order granted to members of the Egyptian Government, but it is not conferred on civilians who are unconnected with the State. It is, therefore, an exceptional honour that has been bestowed on our distinguished countryman. His son, too, Arakel Bey Nubar, who is Private Secretary to His Highness the Sultan, has been created a Bey of the First Grade.

Under "The Situation in Armenia" we give in this issue a full account of what is happening in our unfortunate country. The information there given is corroborated and amplified by direct news recently received by H. E. Boghos Pasha Nubar from the Armenian Bishop of Bulgaria, His Holiness the Catholicos and from private sources in Alexandria. From these authorities it is clear that the Turkish Government is bent on solving the Armenian Question by the extermination of Armenians in the six vilayets and Cilicia; that there have been wholesale deportations of Armenians from Zeitoun, Dartyol and Hassan Beyli in Cilicia; that those deported have been sent to various Moslem provinces in the deserts of Arabia, the men, women and children being separated from each other and sent into different localities, so as more easily to bring about their ultimate doom; that the properties of the deported Armenians have been divided among the Moslem refugees from Thrace and Macedonia through a special Commission appointed by the Government. The reports further state that the town of Hadjin, in Cilicia, has been surrounded by Turkish troops, and it is feared that the fate of the inhabitants will be the same as that of other Cilician towns. Moreover, a special Commission has recently started from Constantinople to Armenia Major with the avowed object of carrying through further deportations of Armenians from those vilayets which have not yet been occupied by the Armenian Volunteers.

In connection with the recent arrests and executions of Armenians in Constantinople, we are enabled to give the names of twenty of those who were publicly hanged opposite the War Office on June 15th. The Court-Martial which tried these unfortunate men found them guilty of high treason, in that they attempted to create an autonomous Armenia and incited foreigners to that intent against the Imperial Ottoman Government with a view to the disintegration of His Majesty's possessions; that for the realisation of their intentions, they held secret meetings, issued circulars and held correspondence with foreign countries. The Court's sentence of death was confirmed by the Sultan. Among the names we give below will be found many well-known members of the Huntchakist party. Two others, Sabah-gulian and Varaztad of the Huntchakists, the former being the president of the Central Committee, were condemned to death in their absence. Those hanged were:—Matheos Sarkissian, Huntchakist, a Russian subject; Hagop Ghazarian of Varna; Minas Keshishian of Kerassunde; Simpad Kilindjian, tailor, of Bitlis; Vahan Garabedian of Tchimis-gazak; Dr. Bedros Torosian of Kharput; Armenag Hampartzoumian, merchant; Apraham Mouradian, shoemaker; Aram Atchibashian, estate agent of Arapgir; Herant Geghavian, medical student; Karekin Boghosian, tent-maker of Shabin-Karahissar; Boghos Boghosian, jeweller of Eguin; Hagop Basmadjian, president of Huntchakists at

Kirk Kilisse ; Thomas Thomassian, Huntchakist, professor at Kirk Kilisse ; Yeremia Manoukian, shoemaker ; Megerditch Ebreneisian, Huntchakist, of Kharput ; Kegham Vanigian, military student of Van ; Yervant Topouzian, teacher at Bardizag ; Hovhannes Perghazarian, Huntchakist, teacher at Caesarea ; Karnig Boyadjian, coffee-house proprietor.

To turn from horrors to something more agreeable—our readers will appreciate with the utmost satisfaction that the great endeavour of our Association to establish permanent quarters in London is likely before long to lead to realisation. We announced some months ago that our members and friends in Java had already collected about £350 towards this worthy and patriotic object, and it was an agreeable surprise to us to be informed recently that that far-off colony had wired us a remittance, not of £350 but £1,500, which we were asked to “utilise housing Association worthily in good Club locality.” The remittance is composed of donations from friends in Sourabaya, Galoehan and Macassar. Our deep sense of gratitude can find no adequate expression, and to carry out the wishes of the munificent donors who have already given lavishly to all our charitable funds, we ask those of our members and friends in other colonies, and particularly in England, to augment this nucleus in such a way as to enable us to give a worthy response to the wishes of those who have so generously started the fund. Until the fund is sufficiently augmented and inquiries made as to suitable housing accommodation, we have invested the sum in the new War Loan. Our sincere thanks are due to all the contributors, whose names we do not know yet, and especially to Mr. N. P. Hacobian, who has made this his own special scheme, and a right good start he has effected.

A Summer School for the study of “The War: Its Social Tasks and Problems” is being held at King’s College, Strand, between July 12–31, and a comprehensive Syllabus of Lectures covers topics affecting every phase of the war and all the countries taking part in it. On our pointing out to Professor Patrick Geddes, one of the organisers, that Armenia had been omitted, we had the very courteous reply that

“I only wish we had had your suggestion sooner. . . . I regret this all the more, because I am personally and strongly interested in the Armenian Question. . . . If we can arrange anything of the nature of a sequel to this, I shall certainly let you know. In the mean time I shall be pleased to bring before our Committee a suggestion of admitting any of your members, Armenian or British, at, say, half fee to our meetings, of which some, I venture to think, will be found suggestive.”

Russia and Armenia.

The Orange Book.

(Continued from page 469, Vol. II.)

V.

Document No. 108, of date November 23rd, 1913, is M. de Giers’ despatch to M. Sazonoff, wherein the Ambassador brings to notice that the German Government has of late been making every effort to strengthen its influence throughout the Ottoman Empire, and more particularly in the provinces of Asia Minor. Its mode of procedure is not restricted to military channels, but other means are also resorted to. In Erzeroum, for instance, Herr Anders, the German Consul, has been displaying great activity, now that the German Government has conceived the idea of opening a series of schools in the several vilayets of Asia Minor, in order to educate Turkish children free of charge. With regard to the schools already in existence, it is stipulated that the German language must be taught in all of them, where the school masters and mistresses are to be paid by the German Government. The realisation of this scheme will undoubtedly give an impetus to the spread of German influence throughout Turkey.

Documents Nos. 109 and 110 are taken up with certain comments on the amendments introduced into the scheme of reforms by M. de Giers.

Document 111, which is dated December 7th, 1913, contains a telegram from M. Adamoff, the Russian Consul at Erzeroum, to M. de Giers, wherein the Consul states that a spirit of provocation towards the Armenians is being artificially fostered among the Moslems in the town. Secret meetings to further this object are being held in the houses of members of the Young Turk Committee. The local Young Turk Club, under the presidency of Ahmed Hilmy Bey, an emissary sent here from Constantinople, is carrying on an active anti-Armenian propaganda. Hooligans of disreputable character, whose leaders are often guests at the German Consulate, are being armed to the teeth. Fear is expressed among the Armenians that Germany is directly inciting to foment and create disorders in order that the work of reform might be frustrated.

Document No. 112, under date December 12th, 1913, contains a telegram from M. de Giers to M. Sazonoff stating that for the first time he called upon the Grand Vizier in company with the German Ambassador. The Grand Vizier informed them that the Council of Ministers had raised strong objections to those points of the scheme which placed Turkey under the obligation first of applying to Europe for the engagement of European Advisers, and then of discussing with the representatives of the Powers any differences which may arise

between such Advisers and the Inspectors-General. The Grand Vizier then went on to ask if we would agree to his formally applying to the Powers, as a trial in the first instance, and requesting them to recommend two candidates for each post of Adviser, one of whom would be nominated by the Sublime Porte. He would then officially communicate to us, he said, the appointment of the Advisers, with whom would be concluded a ten years' contract. Our reply to him was that such a proposition ought to be the subject of an official communication. The Grand Vizier consented to submit to the Council of Ministers his proposal, adding to it "that the Sublime Porte trusts that the Powers will continue to display their same friendly support also with regard to the nomination of the Advisers."

With regard to the possibility of any differences arising between the Advisers and the Inspectors-General, we said that in our opinion the best method of obviating such disagreements would be to revert to the original proposal of the Powers appointing the two European Inspectors-General and not the Advisers. The Grand Vizier considered that our proposal was advisable, and he is going to submit it to the Council of Ministers.

Document No. 113, dated December 14th, 1913, is a telegram from M. Sazonoff to M. de Giers, the gist of which is the Foreign Secretary's statement that the last proposal referred to above, namely, the appointment of European Inspectors-General only, would be approved by the Imperial Government.

Document No. 114, dated December 16th, 1913, contains a further telegram from M. de Giers informing the Foreign Secretary that the Turkish Ministerial Council had granted full powers to the Grand Vizier to make proposals in the following terms with regard to the prosecution of reforms in the Eastern vilayets of Anatolia. Accordingly, the Grand Vizier semi-officially and verbally applies to the representatives of the Powers, requesting them to recommend the names of some candidates for the office of Inspectors-General in the Eastern sectors; semi-officially he communicates to us also the limits of the powers which would be assigned to those persons, acting in concert with us in the matter. Then, on our submitting the names of the candidates, the Grand Vizier would notify to us by an official communication the appointment of such persons; the extent of their jurisdiction; stating at the same time that a contract would be concluded with them for ten years; and that in the event of any change in their tenure being necessitated, the Sublime Porte would apply for the support of the Powers. The Grand Vizier further stated that a difference of opinion existed between himself and the Council of Ministers on this last point.

The last time, says M. de Giers, when he and the German Ambassador called upon the Grand Vizier, it was decided that the above last clause should be expressed to the effect that "the Sublime Porte relied on the *same* goodwill and support of the Powers," whereas

the Council of Ministers now desire to suppress the word *same*, and to give only a guarantee that in case of a new election it would be carried out on similar lines to the present. M. de Giers further states that he particularly insisted on the preservation of the word *same*, and that the Grand Vizier promised him that he would try and persuade the Council of Ministers to retain that word. He also stated that he would forward to M. de Giers by the following Wednesday evening the original text of the powers to be assigned to the Inspectors-General for his preliminary examination. In the event of M. de Giers agreeing to the draft of the text and being satisfied as to the retention of the word *same* in the documents of the Sublime Porte, he would consider the entire scheme as acceptable after the presentation of the names of the candidates.

Document No. 115, dated December 18th, 1913, is a telegram addressed by the Russian Foreign Minister to the Russian Ambassador in Paris, wherein, M. Sazonoff expresses the hope that the Sublime Porte would reply favourably to the representations and the demands that had been made. It is possible, he says, to expect that the Porte will consent to the nomination by the Powers of the European Inspectors-General instead of the proposed Advisers. He recommends therefore, as desirable to consider probable candidates to be chosen from among officials of small States; and in this connection he asks M. Isvolsky to make confidential inquiries from Nubar Pasha whether he has any suitable candidates in view.

Document No. 116 contains a telegram, of December 24th, 1913, from M. de Giers to M. Sazonoff, to the effect that he has insisted that the main principles of reforms should be clearly incorporated in the full powers that will be granted to the Inspectors-General; but that the Turkish Council of Ministers are bent on limiting their action to the appointment of the Inspectors-General, and reserving for future consideration the full extent of their personal powers. The Grand Vizier, adds the Ambassador, handed to him on the previous day the text of those full powers which was said to be the last word of the Sublime Porte; and the Ambassador handed to the Grand Vizier confidentially a memorandum of the project which he should send to the Embassies after the appointment of the Inspectors-General. "To-day I had another conversation," says the Ambassador, "with the Grand Vizier about my scheme, in which he has introduced radical changes. I told him that I was going to submit this scheme, as amended by him, to the consideration of the Russian Imperial Government, without guaranteeing that the amendments would be accepted at all."

M. de Giers goes on to say in this despatch that it seems to him impossible to extract further concessions from the Turks, and that they must rest content with the principle of reforms having been conceded, and await future developments through the activity of the Inspectors-General. The latter, appointed through the Powers, would naturally obtain the support of the Embassies; but that, under all

the circumstances, it would seem futile to lay particular stress on any advantage which may be derived by reference to the 61st Article of the Treaty of Berlin, or by depending on any further official assurances of the Porte. Such assurances may possess a reverse side, in so far as they may limit the extent of our control ; whereas by a wider interpretation of Article 61 such a result might be avoided. Furthermore, it is possible that the other Powers will not support us in demanding larger concessions from the Porte.

(To be continued.)

The Situation in Armenia.

The position of affairs in Armenia, as given in our last issue, may now be amplified by further details received during the last few weeks. There can be no doubt now that the city of Van actually fell to its Armenian defenders, and that for the first time, after an eclipse of five hundred years, the Armenian flag proudly fluttered over the citadel, which contained the Turkish arsenal, three clear days before the arrival of the first Armenian Volunteer Contingent under Hamazasp—himself a native of Van—and the Russian army entered the town on the following day, May 20th. The latest news further demonstrates that all along the southern shores of Lake Van and beyond the mountains, in the districts of Shatakh, Khizan, Sparkert, Moks, Mamerdank, etc., our compatriots have held their own, and, in their heroic struggle of self-defence against the inhuman enemy, have inflicted severe losses on them. The districts of Haiotz-Tzor and Timar on the north of the Lake have suffered slightly. On the other hand, Arjish, Adiljevas, Bergri, Aghpak (Bashkalé) and Norchuz have been practically wiped out in the cruel manner described in last month's issue. The struggle for self-preservation our compatriots have been waging under the most adverse circumstances, and is full of thrilling acts of bravery on the one side, and of typical acts of cruelty and treachery on the other. While our people are deficiently armed and equipped, they are fighting for their very existence against regular Turkish troops, supported by artillery, and bent on maintaining, as best they can, their rule of murder and brigandage. So far the enemy has been cleared out of Van, but he is, nevertheless, carrying on his fiendish work of putting to the sword the unoffending Armenians in Bitlis, Mush, Diarbekir, Erzeroum, Sivas—in fact throughout the length and breadth of the country.

The Situation in Van.—The unprovoked massacres in the outlying villages of the district ; the shelling of Van city, where the Turks paid no respect to the Red Cross flag hoisted over the American Board Mission ; the letting loose of Turkish cavalry patrols to intercept the

lines of communications and so to isolate Armenian villages ; the hurrying of Turkish reinforcements from Erzeroum to Van, are all incidents in the campaign in that neighbourhood, whereby the Armenians suffered much, but ultimately gained the upper hand. There are one or two circumstances of interest in this connection which have seen the light through *Ashkhadank*, the weekly paper of Van, and may be recounted here for the benefit of our readers.

During the siege of that place, Djevdet Bey (not Pasha, as erroneously stated in our last issue), the Military Commander and Vali of Van, tried his hand at the game of cunning and duplicity so dear to the Turk, offering the clemency of the Sultan if arms were laid down. He sent an emissary, Ahmed Bey, on May 4th, with a letter to the acting Armenian Bishop Eznik, who was leading the defence in the city (as distinct from the Garden suburbs). "I have ordered," said Djevdet, "that the artillery and rifle fire should cease. Come out and discuss matters with him (Ahmed Bey). I assure you that no harm will befall you. If you persuade the people to submit, well and good ; otherwise the bombardment will be renewed. I give you all guarantees for your safety."

On the following day another letter followed :—"You cannot do much in persuading the people fighting in the Gardens, but you have the power in the City. You understand that there cannot be negotiations between a Government and its subjects. If, relying on the clemency of the Sultan, you desire to surrender, I will intercede for you as I have promised ; otherwise, I will issue orders for the destruction of your people to the last man. I await your final reply until to-morrow morning." But, instead of waiting, Djevdet sent another letter to the Bishop, containing many deliberate mis-statements and threats, the gist of which is :—"The rebellion which the Armenians have brought about in Shatakh has been followed here in the city by their attack on the Turkish barracks, where our soldiers have been martyred. The conflagration is now spreading all over the country. The entire districts of Haiotz-Tzor, Arjish and Timar have been properly punished." Then, recounting a series of brilliant Turkish victories over Armenian rebels in various districts, Djevdet appeals to the Bishop that Armenians should "utilise their bravery against the common enemy" (meaning the Russians and British) ; and finally he proposes to use his intercession in obtaining "the Imperial pity and clemency if the Armenians would only lay down their arms." It is needless to say that all these offers were peremptorily rejected, the true value of Turkish promises and clemency being rightly appraised by the experience of Armenians.

Djevdet Bey, who by the way married the sister of Enver Pasha, the Minister of War, a couple of years ago, not satisfied with writing to the Bishop, also addressed in a like sense M. Sbordone, the Italian acting Vice-Consul of Van, urging him to persuade the Armenians to surrender. This official, after repelling the accusation that he had encouraged the rebels, thus proceeds :—

"I have had the honour of discussing with your Excellency on several occasions the present state of affairs, and I have pointed out to you that the tactless conduct of the Turkish militia would have disastrous consequences. I still hope that you will be able to find some ground of compromise in order to prevent further bloodshed. Knowing you as well as I do, I trust that you will make such proposals for peace as may be acceptable to the Armenians. As to your proposal addressed to the Armenians that they should surrender their arms and themselves, in my opinion it is too late and under the circumstances it will prove futile.

"The Armenians have taken up arms because they believe that the Government, on military pretexts, desire to exterminate them; and, apart from any expectation of help from the Russians, they are resolved to defend the lives of their families.

"I regret with you the destruction of the premises of the British Consulate and the death of the gendarmes there; but according to reliable information which has reached me, the sentries stationed there were the first to open fire without any provocation. Though there are no armed men on the premises of the American and German (Swiss) Missions, which are occupied mainly by women, children and sick refugees, yet those premises have been shelled by your soldiers

"I gather from your Excellency's letter that the peaceful population will enjoy the protection of the Government. Unfortunately the news that has reached me tells of horrible atrocities which have been perpetrated upon the unarmed and unoffending people in the villages. It was the receipt of such news as this which inspired mistrust in the Armenians, and they concluded that the Government was carrying out a plan of general massacre, and therefore they are clinging to their arms to defend themselves etc., etc."

The above document discloses sufficiently clearly the opinion formed by this Italian official of the motives underlying the wily Djevdet's proposals—an unconditional surrender to be followed by a general massacre! But the sturdy sons of Van have cheated him of his unholy triumph.

Situation in Bitlis.—When Djevdet Bey found his position in Van an impossible one, and knowing of the near approach of the Armenian and Russian relieving forces, he took to his heels towards Bitlis. He, with his entourage of officials, commandeered some sailing boats belonging to the Armenians of Avantz, the port of Van. When the Armenian boatmen had been forced to cross the lake towards Bitlis, they were murdered in cold blood. Djevdet and his "warrior" following then carried out a massacre on a large scale at Tadvan Shamiram and in the neighbouring villages towards Bitlis on the west of the lake. Judging by the scanty news that has leaked through, it would seem that entire villages of the province of Bitlis have been destroyed, the inhabitants being put to the sword regardless of age or sex; and fuller news of the happening is eagerly awaited.

Shatak and the region South of the Lake.—The Armenians in Shatak, in Khizan, Sparkert, etc., altogether some ninety villages with a population of about 40,000, are reported to have defended themselves for some fifty days until they were relieved by the Armenian regiments after the capture of Van. It is stated that many Armenian women actually took part in the fighting by the side of their men, and some photographs of such heroines are to be found in the pages of *Horizon*, the Armenian daily paper of Tiflis.

From the very beginning of the crisis our compatriots south of the lake have succeeded in their efforts to clear their districts gradually of all Turkish regular and irregular forces, and also of unfriendly Kurdish elements. And now that their homes are in apparent safety and field work is being carried on, large numbers of their young men have joined the Armenian Volunteer regiments in order to devote their services towards the redemption of their countrymen who are still under the heel of the Turk. Furious encounters are of daily occurrence in the district of Kardjikan, according to the official Russian reports from the Headquarters of the Caucasus.

Progress is naturally slow in this mountainous and difficult region; and small villages like Sarp on the lake, and positions like the Sourp monastery have twice changed hands. It will obviously take some time before the road to Bitlis has been cleared of the enemy in this direction.

Situation in Mush and Sassoun.—The prospects of about a hundred Armenian villages in these districts would seem to be precarious. The strained relations between the Government and the Armenians have developed into an open rupture. After the first massacres in April last, our fellow countrymen in the *Caza* of Mush, and also Sassoun, formed themselves into small groups and entrenched themselves in strong natural positions for the purpose of defence until they were rescued. Contrary to expectations, the progress of the Russo-Armenian forces has been slow in this direction. It was hoped that, after having reduced the dens of such brigands as Hussein Pasha of Patnotz, and capturing the entire districts of Boulanik and Melazgerd, the Plain of Mush would have offered no great obstacles to being cleared of the enemy forces, because, in the first place, isolated bands of Armenians were making flank attacks on the Turks, and, secondly, on account of the flat nature of the country. The latest reports, however, from the Caucasus show that after the capture of the villages of Nazik and Liz (in Boulanik), the Russo-Armenian army crossed the low hills dividing the Plain of Mush from the Plain of Boulanik and captured Akpenis on the easternmost edge of the former Plain.

Meanwhile a life and death struggle is going on in Sassoun, some forty miles to the south-west, where about 15,000 brave Armenian sons of the soil, led by Goriun, Roupen and others, are waging an up-hill fight against a large Turkish army with heavy artillery. Though the Sassounlis have been in the habit of making their own ammunition

from time immemorial, it is feared that their efforts will hardly withstand the desperate onslaughts of the Turk, who is bent on reducing every stronghold before he is forced to leave the country which he has devastated and outraged for five centuries. We can but look forward with hope that the Russian army will rapidly push along the level Plain of Mush and relieve Sassoun before any appalling catastrophe takes place.

Situation in Melazgerd.—Life seems just now to run along smoothly in this place and the neighbouring twenty villages since their capture by the Russians. Some 20,000 Armenian refugees, stripped and destitute, have crowded into the town of Melazgerd, where epidemics and famine threaten to destroy the remnants saved from the massacres. We will quote here the account of a correspondent of the *Horizon*, writing from Melazgerd on June 20th :—

“I travelled from Alashkerd to Melazgerd and met an old man who came to me in tears. He said that the Kurds had carried off his two daughters and his daughter-in-law, and had put his son to death. The poor man besought me to find his daughters and to send them to him. I was hardly in a position to make him such a promise . . .

“I passed through scores of villages, ruined and in ashes, where one was met only by howling dogs. I spent a night in Koshk, a village in Aintab (Erzeroum). The peasants spoke to me of the barbarities committed by the Kurds, who fled on the approach of the Russian army. A man of 55 told me with sighs that he alone was left of his family of five. He then proceeded to recount his tale of horrors. In the five villages of the district of Khinis (Erzeroum province), Krim-kaya with 80 families, Kara Tchoban with 400 families, Salvari with 50 families, Keuvandug and Gobal, each with 200 families, or a total of about 930 Armenian families, had had their entire male population put to the sword—even infants in their mothers’ arms were not spared. Khalid Bey Bin-i-Ikiti Yusuf was solely responsible for these horrors. This Hamidie officer collected all the Armenians in the Kurdish village of Dorakhan with the avowed object of protecting them. His men were then let loose on the defenceless peasants, killing all the males and violating the women and girls over ten years of age. Two days later the women were led to Kara Tchoban and herded together in three camps. Here they were put to horrible tortures with the object of converting them to Islam; but on the refusal of the women to submit, the inhuman brutes carried out the devilish act of butchering them in cold blood. At this same village of Kara Tchoban, a well-known and wealthy inhabitant named Israel, and his son three years of age, had been put to death. The Kurds then proceeded to bring pressure on the wife to adopt the faith of Islam, but, on the brave woman flatly refusing, she was killed on the spot.

“I proceeded to Melazgerd the next day,” continues the correspondent, “where I witnessed an indescribable sight. The town itself and the neighbouring villages were crowded by absolutely destitute women and naked children, with very few men to be seen among them. These refugees are the remnants of our population of Akhlat, Boulanik, Khinis, Bitlis, etc. Hundreds of absolutely naked and starving women and children are coming in, and the sight is positively sickening. Diseases have broken out and are spreading day by day. Unless medical help, doctors and nurses are sent immediately, these 20,000 unfortunate people of ours, the remnants of the horrible wreckage, are practically doomed! The refugees from Perhus in Akhlat told me that for forty days they had lived on green stuff and herbs, as no bread was obtainable.”

Situation in Zeitoun.—The bloody curtain has fallen over Zeitoun, and the fighting stock of these brave mountaineers has been subdued in this memorable year of crime! As the faithful followers and remnants of the Roupenian dynasty, they had hitherto kept their homes intact and had successfully withstood the Turkish inroads. They have at last been overcome by heavy Turkish forces, and the stronghold of Zeitoun is now in the hands of the enemy!

It appears that after the failure last winter of the projected Turkish plan of campaign against the Suez Canal, Djemal Pasha, the Commander of the Syrian army, led a large force of regulars against Zeitoun. The Zeitounis entrenched themselves in their fastnesses and fought for two or three months against an enemy which outnumbered them greatly, besides being assisted by heavy artillery, hoping that reinforcements would arrive in time for their support. But no help came and they fought to their last cartridge. It was towards the end of May that Zeitoun was taken by the Turks, who massacred all the inhabitants they found. A few hundred old women are said to have been deported to Angora, and others to the plains of Mesopotamia, where report says they are being subjected to grave indignities.

It is also stated that large numbers of Moslem immigrants are being settled in Zeitoun and in other parts of Armenia, whence Armenians have been deported as constituting a “dangerous element.” It would appear that the Turk, in his last gasp of agony, has taken on himself the task of colonisation and redistribution of territory on lines suited to Moslem ideas of justice and right!

A. S. SAFRASTIAN.

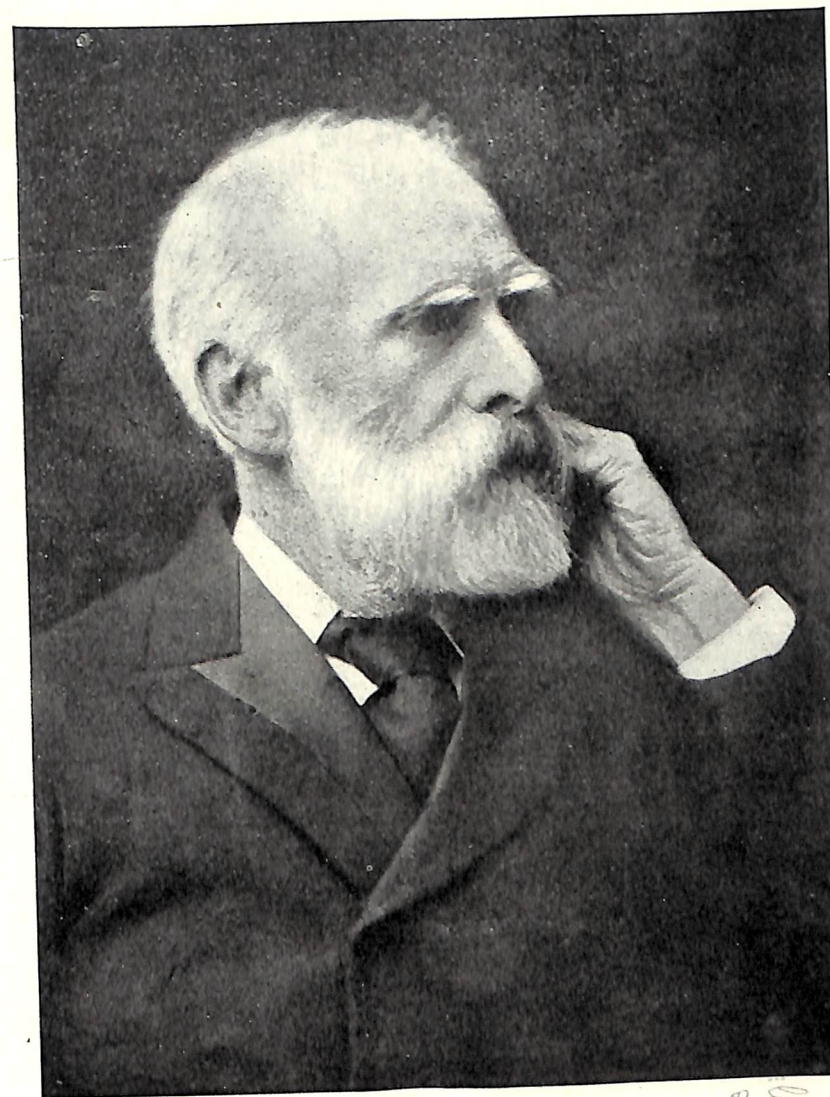
The Doyen of Armenia's British Champions.

Except actresses—who are clever enough to know that though the rose may smell as sweet, if its name be altered, it may lose some of its attractiveness—nearly all women change their names when they are married. So do most Commoners when they become Peers, and it is often as difficult to remember who a noble lord was as it is to recall the maiden name of a married lady. It is said that both Queen Victoria and King Edward had a strong objection to Commoners retaining their patronymics in their titles as Peers, but that King George has no such objection. If so, we must be grateful to him for enabling us to preserve the name of Bryce in our calendar of good and true men who have fought for freedom and justice and have been the champions of oppressed peoples.

The interesting part of a biographical memoir lies in the record of what a man has done, not of what he is or was. The latter, however, is necessary for the full appreciation of his personality, and therefore we will give shortly the personal details appertaining to the subject of this sketch.

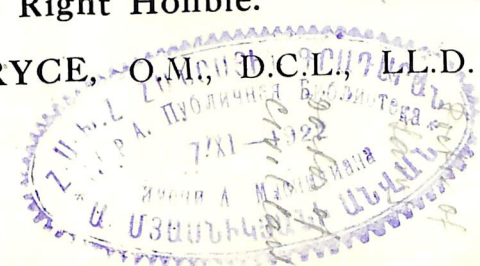
James Bryce was born at Belfast in 1838. He was the eldest son of James Bryce, LL.D. of Glasgow, and Margaret, daughter of James Young, Abbeyville, Co. Antrim, Ireland. Educated first at the High School and University of Glasgow, he afterwards went to Trinity College, Oxford, where he had a brilliant undergraduate career, which was crowned by his election in 1862 to a Fellowship at Oriel College, then regarded as the blue ribbon of Oxford Scholarship. He was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in 1867, and took the degree of D.C.L. at Oxford in 1870, in which year he was appointed Regius Professor of Civil Law—a post which he held till 1893. In 1889 he married Elizabeth Marion, daughter of Mr. Thomas Ashton, of Manchester. From 1899 to 1901 he was President of the Alpine Club. He was the first President of the Balkan Committee, which was formed in 1903, and held that post till 1906.

After an unsuccessful attempt in 1874 to get into Parliament as Member for the Wick Boroughs, he was elected as Liberal Member for the Tower Hamlets division of London in 1880, and held that seat till 1885. In that year he was elected for South Aberdeen, of which he remained the representative till 1906. During this period he held several offices, being Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs in 1886, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster from 1892 to 1894, President of the Board of Trade in 1894-5, and Chief Secretary for Ireland from 1905 to 1907. In 1894 he was Chairman of the Royal Commission on Secondary Education, and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. In 1907 he received the Order of Merit, and in the same year he was appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Washington, a post which he held till 1914, when he returned to England, and was shortly after elevated to the Peerage.



The Right Honble.

VISCOUNT BRYCE, O.M., D.C.L., LL.D.



*Bryce James, LL.D.
156 Copenhagen St. N*

Highly distinguished as was his political career, as the above record shows, it was equalled by his achievements in the fields of Scholarship and Literature, to which recognition was given by his election as Foreign or Corresponding Member of the Institute of France, and the Academies of Brussels, Budapest, Naples, Rome, St. Petersburg, Stockholm, and Turin; while he received the honorary degree of LL.D. from the Universities of Aberdeen, Cambridge, Edinburgh, Glasgow, St. Andrews, California, Harvard, Princeton, Toronto, Jena, and Leipzig. He is also a Knight of the Prussian Order *pour la Merite*.

The books by which he is best known are "The Holy Roman Empire," published in 1862—the most perfect cameo of History in the English language; "Transcausia and Ararat," published in 1877, which is not only a delightful record of travel in regions unfamiliar to Englishmen, but a book full of promise of the interest which its author has thenceforward taken in Armenia; and "The American Commonwealth," published in 1888, the best English History of the United States. Those who have read these books will avail themselves of every opportunity of reading the other numerous books and essays written by Lord Bryce.

To most of the readers of "Ararat" many of the details of Lord Bryce's illustrious career given above are unfamiliar; but there is not one of them to whom his name is not known, and by whom he is not revered, as one of the oldest and staunchest friends and champions of their Motherland. When his interest in Armenia first grew it is impossible to guess. To the scholar and historian the annals of Armenia must have been known long before his visit to the country, though doubtless that strengthened and intensified it; and it is certain that his experience in the Foreign Office in 1886, and his close association as a Cabinet Minister with Mr. Gladstone from 1892 to 1894, greatly increased his knowledge of the Armenian question. But even before that date he had made it one of the regular topics of his annual speeches to his constituents, and he never lost an opportunity of emphasising the obligations which Great Britain had incurred towards Armenia under the Treaty of Berlin. At all the great meetings held in the closing years of last century, when the Armenian massacres roused the British people to unwonted anger, Lord Bryce's voice was heard in passionate appeal for justice. The writer of this memoir was on the platform of the great gathering in St. Martin's Hall on May 19th, 1897, when Lord Bryce, in moving the principal resolution, gave utterance to those thrilling words:—

"Precious in the sight of God is the death of His saints"; and if ever a nation ought to be precious to us, it was that nation which had given such proof of its Christian faith and courage as the martyrs of Armenia had given to the world."

From those days right up to the present time Lord Bryce's interest in Armenia has never ceased, has never flagged, and that he has not lost his faith in her ultimate salvation and triumph is shown in the

address only last year to the Armenian students of the American College at Beirut, which was published in "Ararat" in June, 1914. No more fitting close to this memoir can be found than in the stirring words at the end of that address:—

"Allow me, gentlemen, to appeal to you as a sincere friend. You, who are the intellectual pioneers of the Armenia of to-morrow, educate and encourage your people: tell your brave compatriots of Sivas, of Bitlis, of Adana, and of Aintab; tell those heroic warriors who have kept afloat the honour of your country; tell the indomitable sons of the mountain, the Zeitounlis; yes! tell all the people of Armenia that a brilliant future is awaiting them!"

In the light of what has happened since, and of what is happening to-day, surely these were the words of a prophet!

The Appeal of the "Huntchakists."

Last month we gave a translation of some home truths which had been addressed as a protest by "Droschak," the organ of the *Dashnaksuthiun* party, and sent by wire to Talaat Bey, Turkish Minister of the Interior at Constantinople. The other great Armenian party, the Social Democratic *Huntchakists*, has also issued an appeal to the public opinion of the civilised world. Portions of this appeal have been reproduced by the press of Geneva and Paris, supported by editorials. We give below the chief passages of this appeal, for which we are indebted to the columns of the *Christian Science Monitor* of Boston, U.S.A., as the best translation we have seen:—

"Armenia, on which, with the assent of Europe, has rested up till now the barbarous yoke of the Turks, has actually become the theatre of the Russo-Turkish war, sharing the fate of Poland and of heroic Belgium. But whereas the whole world was enabled to understand and appreciate the rôle of martyred Belgium, Armenia remains ignored and abandoned. The old persecutor of Christians, feeling himself free and irresponsible, has recommenced the great massacres of 1894-96. Our private information, which is of a reliable character, leaves not the shadow of a doubt that such is the case.

"The official declaration of the Allied Powers of May 24, which made the Sublime Porte and its representatives personally responsible for all massacres in Armenia, officially confirms the critical situation to which we refer. But we Armenians, while thanking the Allies for their righteous action, believe that this declaration will not exercise the desired effect on the barbarous and criminal government, which even in normal times disdained the public opinion of the civilised world and the threats made first by one and then by another of the Powers. A similar declaration made in 1894 could efficaciously have prevented the massacre of 300,000 Armenians.

"But there is no doubt that the monstrous massacres which are to-day devastating Armenia will not be stopped. The Armenian nation, which from prehistoric times up till to-day has preserved its existence and its national individuality, is therefore exposed to danger. The Armenian Social Democratic Party of Huntchakists, in consideration of the situation and in the name of humanity and justice, appeals to the public opinion of the civilised world and to the neutral States to put an end by a common effort to the annihilation of a historic nation. In this gigantic struggle of nations, there are numerous small States which, after 10 months of war, have not even yet realised the crime committed against civilisation, justice and the peace of the world. Forgetting their past history, they have not yet determined on which side their sympathies lie. The Armenian nation, on the other hand, from the first day of the war, dared to make common cause with the Allies. It was a great action and one worthy of all praise for a nation martyred for the last six centuries to forget her bitterness towards Europe and to prepare to sacrifice herself for the cause of civilisation. At this time 80,000 Armenian soldiers are fighting under the Russian flag against the Austro-German armies, and 40,000 against Turkey. That is not all. More than 10,000 Armenian volunteers, from all over the world, are fighting on the Russo-Turco-Persian front for the success of the allied cause. It is there that are to be found experienced soldiers of the Armenian revolution who understand the Turkish soldier and his way of fighting, and who know the strategic value of the country, and are thus of great service to the scouting parties of the Russian army.

"The practical and spontaneous sympathy of Armenia for the Allies will no doubt be appreciated and recompensed by them after victory has been won, by the solution of the Armenian question in accordance with the wishes of the Armenian nation itself. The Armenian question is one of the principal factors in the Eastern question. Its solution is the *sine qua non* of the re-establishment of a lasting peace. Europe has already taken solemn engagements and made solemn promises on the subject. During the Balkan war, the Armenian Social Democratic Party of Huntchakists, by means of appeals, recalled the necessity for the solution of this question and pointed to the opportunity which had arisen. But the opposition of a section of the Powers and the indifference of others prevented its realisation.

"At the peace congress of the future, Armenia wounded, but still proud, will claim her historic rights. We are certain that the victorious Allies, taking into consideration the necessity of solving the Armenian question in the manner which we have indicated, will desire to settle this unhappy question definitely in order that future generations may be spared new complications.

"The Armenian Social Democratic Party of Huntchakists, which was the first revolutionary party in Armenia, and which organised and led the insurrectionary movements of Sassoun, of Zeitoun and of Constantinople and other localities, believes itself to be the faithful interpreter of the Armenian nation in demanding the autonomy of Armenia under the protection of the Allied Powers. This would be a just and humane solution, in conformity with the ideal of nationalities, for which the present war is being fought."

Armenian Refugees' Relief Fund.

We are able to announce the receipt of a fair sum this month towards the Relief Fund of our Association. The bulk of it is from Armenian Colonies in the Far East, whose efforts are worthy of the highest commendation. The response to our remarks of last month still remains to be made, and we would impress on our readers, specially those resident in this country, the necessity of giving a helping hand towards making the money flow in a little faster. The cry of distress is keen and it is urgent; it will be still more urgent as time passes.

The following is a statement of our account since our last issue:—

Receipts:—

	£	s.	d.
Armenian Colony in Burma, 3rd instalment ..	100	0	0
Armenian Colony in Hong Kong, 2nd instalment ..	30	0	0
Armenian Colony in Java, 3rd instalment ..	27	14	2
Mr. George Edgar (Amsterdam) ..	10	0	0
Miss Ellen Stephens, Hove ..	5	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. O'Keeffe, Cork ..	1	0	0
F. H. Thompson & Son, Ltd., Cork ..	1	0	0
Colonel C. Skinner ..	0	15	0
Through Mrs. Diana Agabeg Apcar, 9th list ..	5	16	1

Total received in July ..	181	5	3
Amount previously received ..	7,067	17	6

Grand total .. £7,249 2 9

Expenditure:—

	£	s.	d.
Remitted to the Catholicos up to date ..	6,910	0	0
Balance in hand on July 26th ..	339	2	9

Grand total .. £7,249 2 9

The accumulations have now reached a sufficient sum to warrant another remittance being made, and this will be announced in our next issue.

The contributors to the 9th list, sent by Mrs. Diana Agabeg Apcar from Yokohama, are:—

A. K. ..	10.00	Yen.
M. H. ..	2.00	"
X. Y. Z. ..	10.00	"
Bachelor ..	30.00	"
V. A. ..	5.00	"

57.00 Yen = £5 16 1

We are enabled to give below a complete list of the contributors to the donation from Java, the three instalments of which, as recorded in *Ararat*, make up the handsome total of £4,027 14s. 2d.:—

Florins.	Florins.
Zorab Mesrope & Co.:	Mr. & Mrs. A. Michael .. 75.00
A. M. Zorab ..	Edgar & Co. .. 1,500.00
A. P. Hacobian ..	Antony G. Edgar .. 500.00
N. P. Hacobian ..	Seth Zorab .. 100.00
H. P. Hacobian .. 15,000.00	C. Johannes .. 25.00
C. G. Edgar ..	M. J. Martin .. 5.00
V. A. Apcar ..	Charlie Chater .. 20.00
M. P. Hacobian ..	Carr. Joseph .. 100.00
C. Edgar .. 500.00	C. A. .. 5.00
G. L. Apcar .. 10,000.00	M. C. Arrathoon .. 5.00
S. L. Apcar .. 800.00	M. Peters .. 50.00
Sam. Joakim .. 500.00	Mrs. L. J. Chater .. 25.00
J. C. Jordan .. 200.00	Mrs. & Misses J. Vardon .. 10.00
J. S. Arrathoon .. 250.00	Simon Michael (Cheribon) .. 25.00
M. Ellis .. 300.00	Leon Michael (Cheribon) .. 5.00
A. M. J. Boldy .. 100.00	Subscribed in—
A. Carapiet .. 100.00	Bali .. 200.00
J. G. Boldy .. 25.00	Ampenan .. 235.00
C. J. Paulus .. 25.00	Macassar .. 1,610.00
T. P. Hacobian .. 300.00	Galoehan .. 2,200.00
Carr. Joakim .. 50.00	Transferred from Sourabaya Armenian Church Funds .. 3,538.95
E. H. Ellis .. 50.00	Malcolm J. Vardon .. 50.00
A. P. Hacobian .. 5,000.00	J. Mackertoom .. 50.00
N. P. Hacobian .. 5,000.00	Johannes Galstaun .. 50.00
M. David .. 100.00	L. C. Johannes .. 50.00
J. A. Johannes .. 50.00	Michael Galstaun .. 25.00
Johannes Owen .. 25.00	X. .. 10.00
M. G. Mackertich .. 25.00	
Martin Hacobian .. 25.00	
J. M. Alaverdy .. 10.00	
P. J. Paulus .. 25.00	
R. Johannes .. 25.00	
Leon Ter Sarkies .. 25.00	
V. A. Apcar .. 250.00	

F. 49,228.95
=£4,027 14 2

To the sum of £30 from Hong Kong, shown among the receipts this month, the following are the contributors :—

Mr. Ellis Kadoorie	\$100.00
Mr. T. M. Gregory	25.00
Mrs. A. V. Apcar	125.00
Master Armen A. Apcar	84.01

\$334.01=£30 0 0

The Armenian Red Cross and Refugee Fund.

We are thankful to note that friends in all directions are now recognising the great need there is for the work of this Fund. Subscriptions received to date amount to £2,000, besides many gifts in kind. Our most grateful thanks are due to Mr. L. S. Arathoon, who has sent a cheque for £300 from Macassar, Dutch East Indies, which sum he has collected there. His Excellency Boghos Nubar Pacha paid us the honour of coming in person recently to express his thanks for the work of our Fund, and handed us a cheque for £100 for it on behalf of the Armenian National Delegation. Miss H. Packer sends £1 15s. from Christchurch, New Zealand; Miss Beatrice Parsons sends £1 1s.; Miss M. B. Gardiner and Rev. Canon S. Bradshaw, of S. Bartholomew's Vicarage, Barbados, send each £1; Major-Gen. F. Marsh and Mr. Miles W. Watson each send ten shillings, while various smaller sums have been received.

A second consignment of drugs, consisting of salol, carbonate of bismuth, and two kinds of quinine, is now being packed to go to Tiflis. The Russian Government are very kindly allowing the cases to go on one of their steamers to Archangel.

The cases of clothing sent off at the end of January arrived safely in Russia. We trust that by this time they have reached the Mayor of Tiflis for distribution. The five cases of clothing sent last month to Liverpool are now also on their way to Tiflis. Owing to the congestion of traffic we are advised not to send any more clothes by the overland route. When the Black Sea route is open it will be far easier to send garments out.

Will the friends who are working and collecting garments for Armenian volunteers and refugees be so very kind as to *keep* them till about the middle of September. An address will be given later to which parcels can be sent. A Report which has come from the Moscow Relief Committee gives an account of the desperate needs of the Armenian volunteers. Most of the available warm clothing having been requisitioned by the Russian Government for its own troops,

many volunteers left for the fighting line last winter with low shoes and only pieces of coarse cotton in place of stockings, as warm stockings and boots were not to be had. Marching in thick snow thus clad, no wonder that a large proportion of them fell ill. Then the poor fellows suffered from a dearth of doctors and drugs. The numbers of volunteers having greatly increased, warm clothing in still larger quantities will be wanted next winter, as materials cannot now be bought in the Caucasus. The factories which supplied these were mostly in Poland. Especially we beg, therefore, for football or shooting or cycling stockings, either new or in good condition, by the end of September.

We shall be most thankful to receive more subscriptions in order that we may be able to send further help to the Repatriation Fund, and also that we may be enabled to send out further supplies of drugs, which are very badly needed. We ask this with the earnest conviction that we shall not ask in vain, our Fund being the only one in this country which exists for the purpose of helping Red Cross work in Armenia.

All correspondence connected with the Fund should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, Miss E. J. Robinson, 35a, Elsham Road, Kensington, London, W.

EMILY J. ROBINSON.

Armenian Ladies' Guild of London.

To the Editor of ARARAT.

SIR,

I have great pleasure in sending for publication the subjoined letter and list of subscribers to our Guild, which I have just received from Sourabaya, Dutch East Indies.

It will be seen how generously our compatriots of that city have responded to the letter of appeal I sent them in November last, in spite of the many calls upon their purse, and how ungrudgingly they have remitted this handsome sum of money, which puts our Guild on a sound working footing for the coming winter. It is, therefore, with feelings of profound gratitude and appreciation that I take this opportunity of publicly thanking, in the name of our committee, the energetic workers, Mrs. Hyrapiet Hacobian, Mrs. Malcolm Ellis, and Mrs. Mack Hacobian, for the trouble they have taken in responding to our appeal, which has so materially benefited our Guild and removed any anxiety we may have had in regard to our work of charity for the coming season.

Our Guild assembled last year on November 2nd, 1914, and continued its weekly meetings until May 17th, 1915, and although we had to put up with many drawbacks by having to remove our work-

room from one house to another in consequence of the undeveloped charitable instincts of landladies who failed to fall in with the happy chatterings and laughter of the workers to the accompaniment of the rhythmic whirl of sewing-machines, still we managed to finish 433 garments of all shapes and sorts, which were eventually despatched to the sorely needing Armenian volunteers in Paris and to the refugees in Russia. It was not an easy matter to despatch goods to Russia, but our energetic and indefatigable friend, Miss Emily Robinson, came as usual to our rescue and discovered the way to ship our articles, together with the stacks of clothing which she had herself collected from the general public and her own friends. I must not omit to mention that another of our very kind supporters, Mrs. Diana Agabeg Apcar, also sent us a case from Yokohama containing twenty-one dozen children's garments, which was also sent off by Miss Emily Robinson.

We have been warned by shopkeepers that the price of materials will go up by leaps and bounds this year owing to the war. Will our friends and compatriots in British India, Burma, and other parts of the globe kindly take note of this and also send us donations. We have certain knowledge of the great need of the destitute Armenians who have had to desert their homes in Turkey for Russia, and have arrived at the latter place practically nude and in abject misery. These are the people that our Guild is working for this year, and I sincerely hope that my appeal through *Ararat* will not fall on deaf ears, but that the example set by our compatriots in Sourabaya will be followed by those who have yet to swell our funds by their kindly donations, and to whom we look for the needed support.

Our sewing meetings will re-commence in October, so, dear readers of *Ararat* in distant countries, let your hearts be touched and send us funds, funds, funds, so that our work of love and charity may continue uninterruptedly, bringing blessings upon those who will help us to carry on our mission.

PAULINE AGANOR,
Hon. Secretary.

16, Pembroke Square,
Kensington, London, W.

SOURABAYA. 14th June, 1915.

To Miss PAULINE AGANOR,
Hon. Secretary of the Armenian Ladies' Guild. London.

MADAM,

We have duly received your favour of the 19th November, 1914, and have noted with pleasure the splendid work done by your committee in the way of making garments for the orphans in Armenia, which we very much appreciate.

In accordance with your request, we again made an appeal to the members of the Armenian Community of this city for their generous support for your work of charity, and have much pleasure in informing you that they have responded liberally to our appeal, notwithstanding that there were other subscription lists going round at the time. We were able to collect F. 1,192.50, or £98 15s. 10d., which sum we have remitted to Mr. A. P. Hacopian, of London, and have requested him to pay the same to your committee. We have also sent him a copy of the subscription list, which he will, no doubt, hand to you together with the remittance.

Wishing every success to your good and charitable work.

Yours faithfully,
SARAH H. P. HACOBIAN.
BELLA M. ELLIS.
RIPSY HACOBIAN.

SUBSCRIPTIONS IN AID OF THE ARMENIAN LADIES' GUILD, LONDON.

	Florins.		Florins.
Mrs. P. Hacopian ..	100.00	Mrs. Rose Evers ..	25.00
Mrs. J. S. Sarkies ..	100.00	Mrs. John Edgar ..	25.00
Mrs. M. P. Hacopian ..	50.00	Mrs. Sam. Joakim ..	25.00
G. L. Apcar ..	100.00	Mrs. L. Jordan ..	25.00
C. G. Edgar ..	100.00	V. A. Apcar ..	50.00
Mr. and Mrs. Chater ..	20.00	Seth Zorab ..	25.00
A. G. Edgar ..	25.00	T. P. Hacopian ..	10.00
Mrs. P. N. Galstaun ..	10.00	A. S. Apcar ..	15.00
Mrs. H. P. Hacopian ..	50.00	G. Bagram ..	10.00
Mrs. Malcolm Ellis ..	25.00	Mrs. J. M. S. ..	5.00
N. P. Hacopian ..	100.00	C. John ..	15.00
Mrs. C. Edgar ..	75.00	Mrs. B. G. Basil ..	5.00
Mrs. E. W. Edgar ..	100.00	Miss Mary Hacopian ..	10.00
Misses Galstaun ..	10.00	Mrs. M. T. Marcar ..	20.00
Mrs. J. S. Arrathoon ..	25.00	L. M. Sarkies ..	20.00
M. J. Mackertich ..	5.00		
Mrs. Michael Galstaun ..	10.00		
Miss Thelma Galstaun ..	2.50		
Mrs. L. C. John ..	10.00		
			F. 1,192.50
			=£98 14 10

As we go to press, we are asked to add here an urgent appeal towards the purchase of stockings for the Armenian Volunteers now in the field. For want of this necessary article the suffering has been very great. It is hoped to raise £500 for this purpose, and against this the sum of £85 has already been received. All contributions, however small, should be sent to Miss Helen Edgar, 54, Addison Road, Kensington, W., who will gratefully acknowledge them.—EDITOR, *Ararat*.

Local Jottings.

CALCUTTA.

We welcome the interest shown in our pages by our readers in India, and respond to that interest by publishing its evidences which are contained in the correspondence we receive by the weekly Indian mails. Here is an account of a camp of Armenian Boy Scouts, taken from a leading local journal, which a correspondent sends us:—

SCOUTS AT TOLLYGUNGE.

A SUCCESSFUL CAMP.

The members of the 4th Calcutta (Armenians) Troop of Boy Scouts spent last week from Monday to Saturday in camp at Tollygunge. The weather was anything but ideal for camping, and everything, except the spirits of the Troop, was very soon damped. They were fortunate in having the use of the stands and other buildings of the Race course, and the only casualty of any kind was a boy who charged a motor car whilst cycling near the camp—his idea apparently being to emulate the achievements of the Scouts' Patron Saint—Saint George—in "dragon-sticking." The outstanding feature of the camp was the excellent discipline which was maintained with a minimum of *hukums*. A casual visitor might have thought it was a picnic, and yet the time was spent most profitably, and the Scouts spent the greater part of the time out of doors indulging in scouting games and practices. The Scoutmaster, Dr. G. D. Hope and Assistant Scoutmasters Antrobus and Johannes were in charge, but were able to leave the control largely to the patrol leaders.

On Friday night a grand sing-song was held, in which Scouts, Scoutmasters, and two privileged visitors—the Commissioner at Headquarters and Scoutmaster Lance-Corporal King—all took part. Songs, mouth-organ, duets, original solos to very original music, concerted numbers by the Scoutmasters (including a war-dance), and recitations, all added to the "fun of the fair." The Mark Tapley of the camp was undoubtedly patrol leader O. Jordan, whose versatile impersonations kept everyone in roars of laughter. A great feature of the evening was snap-dragon prepared in the time honoured old English style by Dr. Hope. His explanation greatly interested the boys who, coming from Julfa and Teheran, had seen nothing of the kind before. An Eengonyama salute was subsequently given in honour of the Chief Scout.

Another correspondent sends us the following communication:—

To the Editor of ARARAT, London.

At the commencement of the present colossal war many committees were formed in Calcutta for the organisation of various kinds of entertainments on behalf of the War Relief Funds. Amongst others a Committee was formed under the auspices of Mr. A. Stephen, one of the influential and patriotic members of the Armenian community of Calcutta, in connection with a series of eight entertainments in aid of the combined Allies War Relief Fund.

One item consisted of an exhibition of old and valuable china of several hundred pieces, held at the residence of Mr. A. Stephen. The above collection of porcelain, some of rare patterns, was on view for two days, and as a garden party was also given and the band of the 16th Rajputs was in attendance, a great number of visitors and connoisseurs took the opportunity of inspecting and giving proof of their generosity to a deserving cause by paying one or two rupees for their admission. It will not be out of place to mention that some years ago, when Earl Kitchener was paying a visit to Mr. Stephen and examining the collection, a small vase accidentally fell from his hand and broke. Earl Kitchener expressed his regret, but Mr. Stephen told His Excellency that he would have the article mended and attach a band with a suitable inscription recording the event.

Another item included a children's fancy dress dance, which took place at the spacious hall and lawns of the Grand Hotel, kindly lent by Mr. Stephen, when arrangements were made for the accommodation of some 500 children and prizes distributed for the best original costumes. In addition to the programme of dances and other attractions dear to the hearts of the children, an excellent selection of music was played by the hotel orchestra and tea served on the lawns.

The net proceeds realised from the different entertainments amounted to Rs. 10,216, which was divided equally amongst the French, Belgian, Russian, Japanese and Servian Relief Funds, the Prince of Wales' Fund, and the Imperial Indian Relief Fund.

The Armenian Relief Fund, organised by the officiating clergymen of the Armenian Holy Church of Nazareth towards the alleviation of the terrible distress of the thousands of destitute Armenian refugees, is making satisfactory progress, and up to now a sum of about Rs. 40,000 has been subscribed. Besides this amount, the firm of Messrs. Apcar and Co. have generously contributed their share of Rs. 15,000, remitted directly to His Holiness the Catholicos in two instalments of Rs. 12,000 and Rs. 3,000 respectively, one for the relief of the homeless and helpless refugees in the Caucasus, and the other in aid of the stricken villagers of the districts of Urumiah and Salmas, victims of the hideous cruelties and barbarities perpetrated recently by the brutal Turks and Kurds.

The Ladies' Committee deserve unstinted praise for their commendable efforts in organising a Fancy Fête at the Armenian Club, the net proceeds of which amounted to Rs. 1,803 2as. His Grace the

Metropolitan of India has kindly contributed Rs. 50 to the Fund, and in a letter expressed his heartfelt sympathies with the deserving object and the Armenian cause. It is sanguinely hoped that further subscriptions will be forthcoming from the sympathetic and generous members of the different communities of Calcutta, to whom a pathetic appeal for help has been addressed by the Rev. Garegin Johannes, the Hon. Secretary of the Armenian Relief Fund Committee, in the columns of the "Statesman," the leading journal of Calcutta.

The first instalment of Rs. 12,000 has already been remitted to His Holiness the Catholicos through Mr. A. Stephen, the Hon. Treasurer, and it is hoped that the remaining sums will be sent at the first opportune moment.

AN OBSERVER.

Calcutta.

June 17th, 1915.

With regard to the Armenian Relief Fund (Calcutta), of which we have already published seven lists of contributions, we now attach the 8th list:—

Amount previously acknowledged, Rs. 38,403-6; Proceeds from a raffle organised by Miss E. B. Sookias at Naraingunge, Rs. 120; "My Mite," Rs. 10; P. N. Manuck, Rs. 15; V. A. Vardon, Rs. 5; A. M. D., Rs. 10; M. K., Rs. 10; U. N. Mullick, Rs. 5; H. M., Rs. 15; N. L. Dutt, Rs. 2; G. L. Dhur, Rs. 5; H. Pierroz, Rs. 15; G. B. Alasia, Rs. 5; Eugene Burger, Rs. 10; Johnnie Bartlew, Rs. 5; F. Steiner, Rs. 5; E. Leder, Rs. 5; S. S. Moorad, Rs. 5; E. J. Thompson, Rs. 2; Dunia Lall Dutt, Rs. 5; Kali Pada Dey, Rs. 2; Noni Lall Bhur, Re. 1; Hari Mohan Dey, Re. 1; M. J. Mackertich, Rs. 2; M. A. Adams, Rs. 2; M. B. Monk, Rs. 10; Dulal Chandra Mullick, Re. 1; M. M. Mukerjee, Re. 1; B. S. Hundy, Re. 1; S. Bhandoo, Re. 1; Najjar Abraham, Rs. 2; Miss O. Highcayony, Rs. 10; J. A. Smith, Rs. 5; Sostee Bhusan Paul, Re. 1; grand total, Rs. 38,697-6.

All contributions to the above Fund are being received by the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. A. Stephen, 2, Camac Street, Calcutta.

Literary Section.

Lemberg and Armenians.

Lemberg has fallen! In what way does that interest Armenians? What connection is there between Armenia and Galicia that makes Lemberg more important to them than any other township such as Liège, Lille, or Przemysl?

Probably few people are aware that Lemberg is an important Armenian centre, or appreciate that Galicia, Bohemia and Transylvania, where the Russians and Austrians are fighting, were once important Armenian Settlements, having Lemberg as their Metropolis, and that at the present day Lemberg is the venerated seat of an Armenian Archbishopric. The Armenians settled in those countries were numerous and influential enough to have established an Armenian State in Europe, similar to the one founded in Cilicia, but their ignorance of the country and of Western customs, as well as their attachment to their Fatherland, Armenia, prevented them from so doing. One should, therefore, impress on the minds of Armenians as well as on those of Europeans, that Armenians are living and suffering, not only in the Caucasus war zone, but in the Eastern portion of Europe as well, namely in Galicia, Bohemia and Transylvania, where there have been considerable Armenian settlements and towns.

The following is a brief sketch of the Armenian settlements in those countries.

The dates at which the Armenians emigrated and the routes they took are difficult to ascertain accurately. There were several emigrations, but the principal ones took place beginning with the second half of the eleventh century.

After the appearance of the Seljouks, the Mongols and the Tartars, and after the fall of Ani, the beautiful capital of Armenia, at the hands of that terrible Asiatic scourge Alp Arslan in 1064, and the devastation of that prosperous Armenian cities such as Ardzni, Melitene, Sebaste, etc., many Armenians, either in bands or separately, emigrated towards Europe, having for their objective Poland, which was the most flourishing State in Europe, and settled themselves in Ungaria and Galicia.

It was in 1239, nearly two centuries later, that the terrible Mongol General, Tcharma Khan, again captured and destroyed Ani. This led to a wholesale emigration. The emigrants first settled at Akserai (Astrakan) on the banks of the Volga, near the Caspian Sea. But they suffered so much under the dominion of the Tartar that, hearing of the benevolent rule of the Genoese in the Crimea, where Armenian settlers were granted many privileges, they opened negotiations with the Genoese and, terms being arranged, they fought their way through to the Crimea in 1330 after a stay of about a century in Astrakan.

Some of these emigrants pushed on further into Poland, but the majority settled in the town of Theodosia in the Crimea, and increased to such an extent that a little later they were able to send an army of 40,000 to protect the town of Kamenitz in Podolia, north of Bessarabia, against the Tartars, and made quite an Armenian town of it. Theodosia became a very important town for Armenian commerce. They made of it a new Ani, adorned it with many fine buildings and churches, erected large public buildings and strong fortifications round the city, contemporary writer estimates the number of their houses at 100,000 and their churches at 1,001, in emulation of the number at Ani, though it must be taken merely as an expression signifying a great number.

Unfortunately the rule of the Genoese did not last very long. The Tartars, with the help of the Turks, took the Crimea in 1475. The Armenians fought bravely by the side of the Genoese, but the town was taken by the Turks with great slaughter of the Armenians, and those who escaped emigrated in large numbers towards Lemberg, Kamenitz and other Polish towns, as we shall see later.

As early as 1062 the Armenians had been invited over to Galicia by Theodor Dimitrovitch and accorded many privileges. In 1280 they were asked to come to Lemberg by Leo Danelovitch, who had founded that city ten years earlier and called it Leopole, after himself.

In 1344 Cazimir III, named the Great, bestowed on the Armenian town of Kamenitz (in Podolia, then in Poland) the privilege of administering their own affairs in accordance with their own laws and customs. In 1356 he bestowed the same privileges on the Armenians of Lemberg. Accordingly the Armenians elected their own President called *Voit* and twelve Judges to administer all the civil and ecclesiastical affairs of the community. In the year 1367 Casimir allowed Bishop Gregory to have his seat at Lemberg, and his successors have resided there ever since without interruption. In 1516 they established their celebrated Court of Justice (magisterial) in the principal street of the town. Sixteen Polish Kings one after the other confirmed these privileges of the Armenians, who, under their beneficent rule, increased in numbers and prospered in commercial and agricultural enterprises so long as the Polish Kingdom survived. But after the partition of Poland in 1795, when the Polish kingdom ceased to exist, these Armenian privileges also came to an end.

The Armenians at first lived outside the town of Lemberg so as to keep themselves apart from the original inhabitants, and here they built themselves three churches. In 1183 they, however, erected a wooden church in the town, which was replaced in 1363 by the present imposing Cathedral dedicated to the Virgin Mary (*Astouadzadzine*). Wherever Armenians were settled in sufficient numbers in Polish dominions, they were allowed to govern themselves, and they showed a remarkable capacity for administering their own affairs, without any need of outside interference, the people throughout showing great confidence in their own elected officers and abiding by their decisions unreservedly. In consequence their development was peaceful and their commercial progress was almost unparalleled. With their knowledge of the languages of the East and their quick adaptability to Western customs they became the unrivalled intermediaries of commerce between the East and the West. All these circumstances combined to make them immensely wealthy, and this incited the jealousy of the native inhabitants, who styled them the "Big Pockets." To give an instance of their wealth—an Armenian "big pocket" named Khristoph Avetick Pernatovitch (1671) was asked by Vlatislav IV to lend him 100,000 gulden. Avetick asked how he should deliver the money, in gold, silver or copper. When the King replied "In all three," Pernatovitch at once complied with his wish. It was small wonder that after this the house of Pernatovitch became a favourite resort of the Kings of Poland.

At present the Armenian Cathedral of the Virgin Mary stands in the centre of the town, and the other national institutions are grouped around it, such as the palace of the Archbishop, the residence of the Canons (Canonry), and the Convent. The street is called Armiantzkoulitza, or Armenian Street. The Convent is noted for a large and well-conducted school for girls; and it is said that the present Abbess alone can express herself in Armenian. The religious services continue to be conducted in Armenian, though the congregation does not understand them, not even the officiating priests.

After the capture of the Crimea by the combined forces of the Turks and the Tartars, a great exodus took place again towards Kamenitz, Lemberg and other Polish towns to strengthen the Armenian settlements; though in some respects they were scarcely a source of strength, for, having lived so long under Tartar rule, they no longer spoke Armenian but had entirely adopted the Tartar language, and gradually the old settlers, who were fewer in number, were also obliged to drop their own language; and thus in Lemberg and Kamenitz the Armenian language gave way to the Tartar, not only in conversation but in the Law Courts, where the proceedings had always been conducted in the language of the old settlers, and even the records came to be kept in the Tartar language, though in Armenian characters, from 1521—1564. In Divine Service, too, the Tartar language was substituted for Armenian, and into it were translated *Narek*, *Jamarirk* (Church services), the Psalms and St. Paul's Epistles, all of which sounded very strange and barbarous to Armenian ears.

Later on, however, when more Armenians came over from Persia and Armenia, the Tartar language was driven out of use, and gradually the Polish language asserted itself. Now only a few of the older generation understand Armenian, while still fewer can speak it.

The chief obstacles to the growth and prosperity of the Armenian colonies in Poland were religious disputes, which brought about strife and dissension, and eventually ended in the ruin and the dispersion of the flourishing Armenian colony of Lemberg.

In the sixteenth century the tyranny of Persian rule in Armenia proper was continuing unchecked under the sway of the cunning Shah Abbas. At the See of Etchmiadzin there was in power (1593—1628) an unworthy coadjutor Catholicos, Melchisedech of Garni, who had bought the Catholicosate, for which he had to pay by borrowing large sums of money. He was so harassed by the money-lenders and the Shah that he fled secretly in 1625 to Constantinople. Knowing the prosperous condition of the Armenians in Lemberg, he went there hoping to get some help from them. The episcopal seat happened to be vacant at the time. An ambitious man named Nicol, knowing the avaricious character of the Catholicos, offered him rich presents if the Catholicos would ordain and appoint him bishop of Lemberg. The Armenians, hearing of this and knowing how unworthy Nicol was, protested and begged the Catholicos not to lay hands on him, but he could not be persuaded. One night he took Nicol secretly to an

Armenian church outside the town and ordained him. The people heard of it and went to the church in great numbers to try and stop the ordination, but in vain. After he had ordained Nicol the Catholicos went to Kamenitz, where he died shortly after in 1628. The people, however, were determined not to have Nicol, so they closed the church and would not allow him to enter. Nicol, finding himself baffled, then applied to the Jesuits for help, and it was by their powerful assistance that he broke down the resistance of the people and got possession of the churches and their treasures; and putting himself under the jurisdiction of Rome, he forced his people to do the same. Harassed by the intrigues of Nicol the best families left Lemberg and dispersed themselves over the country. Others, who complied with Nicol's demands, joined the Roman Catholic Church and were gradually absorbed into the native population. It was thus that the flourishing colony of Armenians melted away. In Lemberg and Kamenitz, as in other places, the Jews have gradually taken the place of the Armenians.

Besides Lemberg and Kamenitz there are many other cities in Galicia where a few Armenians are still left. These held formerly Armenian communities of fair dimensions, but only traces of them are to be found at the present time.

Father Minas of Venice, who travelled in those countries in the beginning of the last century, gives us the following statistics:—

Stanislau	..	70 families; one beautiful church erected in 1741; a street called Armenian.
Listza	..	60 families; one wooden church.
Berejan	..	60 families; one wooden church.
Tismenitz	..	50 families; a fine church dating from 1750.
Sniatin	..	70 families; a stone church.
Horodenka	..	40 families; one wooden church.
Kouti	..	175 families of great merchants and tanners. The town was built by the Armenians; and formerly they had their own Law Court and their judges; there is an imposing church here.

In Zamostza and Lublin there used to be many Armenians; but as there are none now, their churches have been given to the Poles.

A word of warning and advice might here in conclusion be given to the Armenian colonies of Europe and America.

We have seen that in many Galician cities flourishing Armenian colonies prospered for a time and then dwindled away. Many wealthy merchants, manufacturers, land-owners, capitalists, and even statesmen appeared for a time, and shed their brilliancy around them, but they have disappeared, leaving nothing behind them—no heirs, no property; like flowers, they appeared for a time, then they withered away and

their riches perished with them. There are others, too, less wealthy perhaps, who made good use of their means by building churches or spending it in enterprises for the benefit of future generations, thereby immortalising their names. For instance, there stand out Hagop Shahinshah and Stephen Panossian, who built the church of Lemberg. These have been known and mentioned and honoured since 1363.

Armenian ladies have not many opportunities of immortalising their names except in good works; and most of the women known to history are those who are remembered for some signal act of charity. We have here an instance—Mrs. Pani Azizko, with her husband, finding the church at Kamenitz too small for the congregation, replaced it by a much larger edifice, and has thus immortalised her name since 1566. Another instance, too, is that of one Gulof Khatoun who, being childless, has come down to posterity for her gift of her beautiful house to the church of Kamenitz.

Some may say, "What is the use of such works and acts of charity when we see that after a time these churches are abandoned, closed, or given to other nations?"

There is much truth in that, and it is, therefore, that the writer would suggest that such works be done in Armenia itself, where churches, schools, hospitals, poorhouses, etc., are very much needed, and would be of lasting utility.

Unfortunately our European colonies have not seen their way to doing this kind of work, but have spent their money instead in building and endowing churches in the countries they reside in. For their nation in general or for their brethren in Armenia, they have done practically nothing. These they have forgotten entirely. What an immense amount of good they could have done towards the awakening of Armenia, centuries ago, if they had used some of their wealth, now seen to be lost or frittered away, by opening schools in Armenia, and sending to them qualified teachers from Europe. Where our predecessors in Europe have failed we, their successors, should try to be more cautious and not court similar failure. Our brethren on Armenian soil expect a great deal from us, and those of us in whose hands God has placed the wealth of this world can do much good therewith, and at the same time inscribe our names on the hearts of the nation for all time.

Among our Indian Armenians there were many very wealthy people—millionaires. Where are their millions now? They are lost and their names forgotten. The names of two only are, however, imperishable. They opened a school for Armenian youths, and there is no Armenian who has not heard the names of Murad and Raphael. May there arise among us many Murads and Raphaels, full of zeal for the benefit and advancement of their brethren in Armenia!

G. THOUMAIAN.

Mekhitar, or a Plea for the Study of Armenian Literature

In the old romantic city of Venice that seems still to shelter within its sea-encompassed walls some few lingering remains of medieval glory, there lies under the shadow of the Ducal Palace a little square known to the traveller as the Piazzetta. Flanked on one side by the statue of St. Theodore, and on the other by the Winged Lion of St. Mark, it commands an extensive view of the adjacent lagoon. The eye wandering from the Point Giudecca, descries in the distance several small islets, that, punctuating the surface of the still lagoon, seem to invite the stranger to a closer scrutiny.

On one of these, lying between the Hospital of San Servolo and the old Lazzaretto, rises the noble dome of the Armenian cloister, sheltering, as it were, with its ample dimensions the little community, which for two hundred years has found there a secure and sweet asylum. Beneath this fane where the gorgeous ritual of the Armenian church as yet prevails, there still lingers a faint touch of the primitive customs, and when at High Mass, the Bishop, robed in his spotless dalmatic and tiara, accompanied by the Levites and Acolytes with their swinging censers, intones with his rich voice the melancholy psalms, there instinctively rises in the mind a vision of the ancient bards of Koghten, chaunting to the music of the pampirn, the sacred ballads of the rising nation. Here, then, within a mile of the Piazzetta lies the western home of the Armenians, whose history, like that of most things mortal, is full of strange eventualities.

To the city of Sebaste, in Asia Minor, may be ascribed the honour of having given birth to one of the most interesting of monastic personalities, Mekhitar, the founder of this truly unique congregation. Baptized by his parents, Peter and Sharistan, "Manoug," which in Armenian signifies "infant Jesus," he retired as soon as he was capable of instruction, to the monks of the Garmir-Vank, or Red Convent, and under their loving care were sowed the seeds of that erudition for which he was afterwards destined to become so famous. In his 15th year he received from the hands of Bishop Ananias the monastic habit, and as a deacon took the name of Mekhitar, or Consoler. After having received the dignity of the priesthood in his 20th year, he travelled for some time as a missionary, and spared no pains in widening the horizon of his knowledge, and in disseminating the tenets of the Catholic faith. Some time after, at the convent of the Sourp Nishan, or Holy Cross, he was created Vartabed, or Doctor, a distinction of which his high sanctity and unmistakable talents pronounced him eminently worthy. Following close upon his doctorate appeared some original works in his native tongue, together with a translation of the Imitation of Christ, a work which, from the beauty of its sentiments and the lofty religious fervour with which it is everywhere imbued, he considered a fit object of perusal.

It was during his travels that he had collected around him many men, whose zeal and piety afforded him the utmost measure of satisfaction. With these he had formed a new community who, with all the advantages attendant upon a cenobitical life, might devote their time to the purposes of religion and education. During their stay at Modon, the order had been formally approved by Clement XI, and the rule of St. Benoit was adopted as the one most becoming the exigencies of the time. After many trials and afflictions, which men with their deep spiritual foresight and intelligence interpreted as a distinct mark of God's affection, they arrived in 1715 at Venice, and two years later the republic assigned to them for ever the island of San Lazzaro, a possession of which, even up to the present day, they are justly and enthusiastically proud. The monastery itself, as is commemorated in the terse Latin inscription that overhangs the refectory door, was finished in 1740. In the spiritual world, which in so many ways is inaccessible to the great surging and fashion-mongering millions, it is a prognostic of no mean importance when a man, raised from his position among the grovelling multitudes and alive with the throbbings of some new and cherished ideal, has, within the scanty hours allotted to humanity, brought to completion an order to which he may bequeath his fiery exaltation, and left a house in which may be focussed and concentrated the young and all too vigorous strivings of his zealous community. With Mekhitar, then, as with Loyola, at the time of the inauguration of his glorious and world-famous order in 1540, the success that attended his life-long labours was not the signal for rest, but rather a stimulant to further activities. To him the one obsessing idea was the preservation of the Armenian language and nationality, coupled with a conscientious discharge of those duties which the Catholic Church esteemed necessary for her disciples. He sought to establish in the western hemisphere a seat of learning wherein the patriotic Armenian might at once find an asylum, and in which, should he feel so disposed, he might serve his God with the utmost seclusion and success. In 1749, in his 74th year, the good Abbot Mekhitar died, a man of whom it can be said that from his earliest childhood he had been devoted to ideals and enterprises of the most exalted type. These, indeed, carried out as they were with that fervour and contempt for opposition which instinctively marks the pioneer of some new movement, served to distinguish in no small degree a life which up to the last hours was transfigured by the purest kind of religious inspiration.

It is necessary, from the peculiar nature of the circumstances, to dwell with some insistence upon the life of this interesting character, as to him alone belongs the merit of having collected and systematized the national literature, a literature which, but for the apathy of European scholars, might be wider known and better appreciated.

Upon patient examination, however, it will be admitted that there is much in Armenian lore and literature to warrant the study of the leisured scholar. From the fifth century, when Mesrob, inspired by heaven, as his biographer somewhat hyperbolically remarks,

invented the present Armenian alphabet, up to the present century there has been a steady flow of works which offer to the learned a most extensive field for observation. Of history there are some forty writers, headed by Moses of Chorene, a man who, regarded by his compatriots as the finest model for the Armenian student, has contributed on the subject of the Assyrians and Persians some new and distinctly interesting dissertations. His works, too, on grammar and rhetoric are of considerable importance, and a volume of homilies and hymns has secured him for all time a reputation for poetry, to which his eminent talents undoubtedly entitled him. Some thirteen hundred years after the death of this admired historian, sprang up that great revival to which the illustrious Mekhitar had given so welcome a birth, and history naturally formed an important part in a scheme so widespread and so comprehensive. To Michael Tchamitsh, then, a man whose profound erudition and piety were his chief recommendations, was entrusted the task of compiling a history of his native land from the earliest times up to his own era, and his work, on its completion, was immediately elevated to the rank of a classic, and even to-day is thought worthy to take its place with those of Mommsen and Grote, as one of the great masterpieces of historical composition.

Despite the obscurity which has somewhat undeservedly overcast the literary aspirations of this vigorous nation, its poetry has, nevertheless, never failed to enlighten and charm those whom an intelligent knowledge of the language has rendered capable of appreciation. In Gregory Naregatzi, who is honoured with the title of Pindar of the Armenians, there are to be found some of the noblest specimens of poetic art. His poems, mainly consisting of sacred elegies, combine an elevated diction and purity of sentiment with an unusual degree of success. The edition of these highly beautiful works, published under the auspices of Father Gabriel Avedikian, no doubt contributed to extend in no small way the popularity which they already enjoyed.

It is a matter of curious speculation to consider that poets, however endowed they may be with richness of epithet or delicacy of versification, are seldom able to exhibit their powers in the composition of a creditable epic. The great length, indeed, and the vastness of the general theme which must be sustained throughout the whole poem, has no doubt in the opinion of many a timid poet, immediately precluded him from even an attempt, while of those whose visions of posthumous fame have conquered their natural reserve, it is but fair to add that few have met with success. In the epic, however, called "Haïg," written by the famous grammarian and translator, Father Arsenius Pacradouni, is to be found a notable exception. His work, teeming as it is with beauties both of matter and form, has inspired in the hearts of the patriotic Armenians a fire and an enthusiasm not inferior to that with which the passionate Italian thinks of his own Dante. In the poetical world, then, this fine nation has accomplished much that will merit the enquiry of the scholar and the patronage of those to whom the poet is at once the prophet and singer of all that is beautiful and ennobling.

In later years, owing to the great literary activity of Mekhitar, the Monastery of San Lazzaro, at Venice, has become the chief centre of Armenian culture. It is this which has arisen to vindicate the position and prestige of the Armenian literature among those of the Western world, and in return for the just interest which the European scholar is manifesting for its poets and historians, her savants, through the instrumentality of the press at Venice, are gradually translating for their thirsting countrymen that vast body of classics to which Rome and Athens have been the most lasting contributors. In view, then, of the treasure which lies hid beneath this difficult and unknown tongue, it is to be hoped that the scholar, wearied of the commonplace trend of modern research, will endeavour to find in it a new and unrequented field for independent study. There is a charm, a charm, indeed, to which no man of parts can be a stranger in treading the mazes of some great lonely language, marooned, as it were, from its fellows, and ostracized from its exalted position amongst the hierarchy of tongues by the intrigues of some more courted but less worthy rival. That Armenian has seldom evoked the sympathy or admiration of the linguist is a fact which cannot be gainsaid. French and German have, no doubt, for many a year monopolized the attentions of the cultured, but neglect does not always argue lack of merit, nor is popularity any standard of lasting esteem. There is something sacred, indeed, that pervades the whole body of Armenian literature, a sacredness somewhat akin to that which haunts the temples of Egypt and demands from every worshipper a silent tongue and a respectful demeanour. For the industrious, then, and the interested, Armenian will afford a novel and substantial pleasure, and few who choose to conquer the difficulties of its grammar will be disappointed in the delights which will afterwards reward their application. Between love and the acquisition of a language there seems to exist a strange affinity; a close resemblance in the preliminary stages, wherein despair and violent affection are curiously intermingled. Armenian, then, has to be wooed with a special show of constancy, but in this virgin tongue, not yet profaned by the touch of the multitude or wounded by the mutilations of schoolboys, there burns a rich and powerful fascination, luring on the sleepless scholar to lands wherein the poet has struck not a few of his sweetest chords, and the writer has illumined the darkest subject with the lambent fires of inspiration.

DESMOND McAULIFFE.

In an article contributed to the *Westminster Gazette*, Sir Harry Johnston wrote:—"If the average Englishman desires . . . to keep himself abreast of the intelligent in the study of foreign affairs, I recommend to his notice **THE NEAR EAST**."

Every one interested in the commercial development or the political and racial questions of Egypt, the Balkans, Persia, and the Levant should read

THE NEAR EAST

The Journal deals with the Affairs of all the Countries of the Near East, and of Islam from Tangier to Teheran and from the Danube to the Desert.

Special Correspondents in Constantinople, Cairo, Sofia, Smyrna, Bucharest, Belgrade, Athens, Jerusalem, Salonika, Cyprus, Alexandria, Odessa, and other important centres.

Every Friday - Price Sixpence

THE NEAR EAST is on sale at all Bookstalls and Newsagents, but if any difficulty is experienced in obtaining copies, those interested should communicate with the Manager.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION (post free) ONE POUND

THE NEAR EAST, Ltd., 16-17 Devonshire Square, LONDON, E.C.

ARMENIA'S TRUE INTERESTS

— AND —

SYMPATHIES in the GREAT WAR

BY F. R. SCATCHERD.

Reprinted from *The Asiatic Review*, April, 1915.

Sold on behalf of the **ARMENIAN RED CROSS and REFUGEE FUND**.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

6s. 6d. per Hundred, post free, from the Publishers.

EAST AND WEST, Ltd., Publishers, 3, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

THE ASIATIC REVIEW.

Noted for its articles on Eastern Politics, Finance, Literature and Art.

Published at

Westminster Chambers, 3, Victoria Street, London, S.W.,

Every Six Weeks, on January 1st, February 15th, April 1st, May 15th, July 1st, August 16th, October 1st, November 15th,

By **EAST AND WEST, Limited.**

2s. 6d. net.

20s. a year, post free.

DO BUSINESS WITH PERSIA! 1,000 things are wanted!

ADVERTISE YOUR GOODS IN PERSIAN PAPERS.

INTERNATIONAL ADVERTISING AND INFORMATION BUREAU, AND NEWS AGENCY FOR PERSIA AND THE CAUCASUS.

Questions on all subjects relating to Persia and the Caucasus promptly answered and businesses arranged.

Advertisements in all Persian and Caucasian newspapers published in all required languages.

Agents at Tabriz for the sale of "Ararat."

Mihran BAGHDASARIAN, Manager,

TABRIZ, PERSIA

N.B.—Please register your letters.

The Moslem World.—A quarterly review of current events, literature, and thought among Mohammedans, and the progress of Christian Missions in Moslem lands.

"The Moslem World" is a Christian quarterly, and has always been pro-Armenian.

Edited by Dr. Samuel M. Zwemer, of Cairo.

London: Christian Literature Society for India, 35, John Street, Bedford Row, W.C.

1s. per copy, or 4s. per annum, post free.

Made in London and sold under a guarantee of complete satisfaction.

THE SWAN FOUNT PEN

did not simply happen—it is to-day the product of evolution, improvement, study, experiment, and expense. It is the best because we have made it best in all details. Its reputation does not hang simply on its magnificent gold nib, or its feed, or its finish, or shape, or working, but on all these features united.

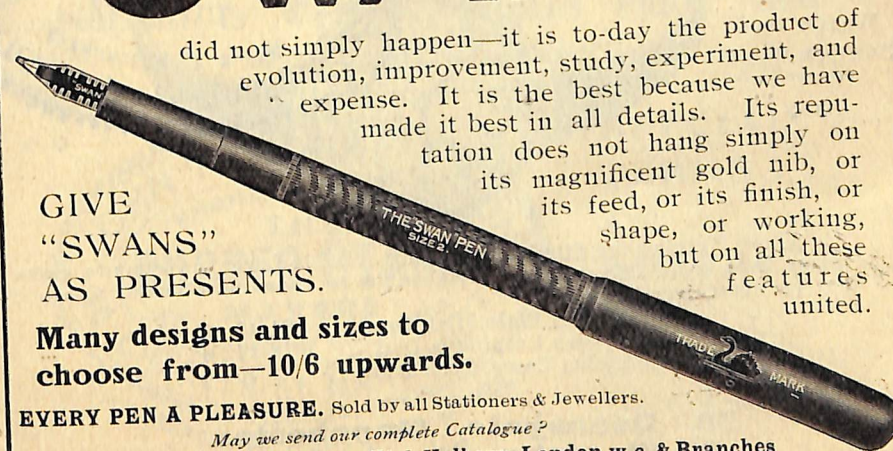
GIVE
"SWANS"
AS PRESENTS.

Many designs and sizes to
choose from—10/6 upwards.

EVERY PEN A PLEASURE. Sold by all Stationers & Jewellers.

May we send our complete Catalogue?

MABIE, TODD & Co. Ltd., 79 & 80, High Holborn, London, W.C. & Branches



**AZNAVORIAN & SIVRISARIAN,
MANCHESTER.**

iv

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Telegrams :

"Specular,
Manchester,"

"Specular,
Liverpool."

THOMAS ARMSTRONG & BROTHER,

Prescription Specialists, and
Dispensing Opticians to the Royal Eye Hospital.

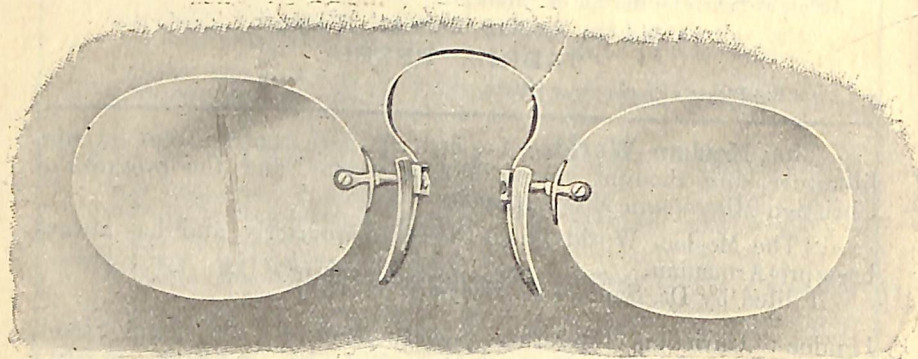
Telephones:

643 City
Manchester.

1625 Royal
Liverpool.

**THE "CLINGSWELL" FRAMELESS
EYEGLASS.**

Light and elegant, made in gold, rolled gold and steel, with plaquets that
can be moulded to accurately and comfortably fit the varied curvatures of
the nose.



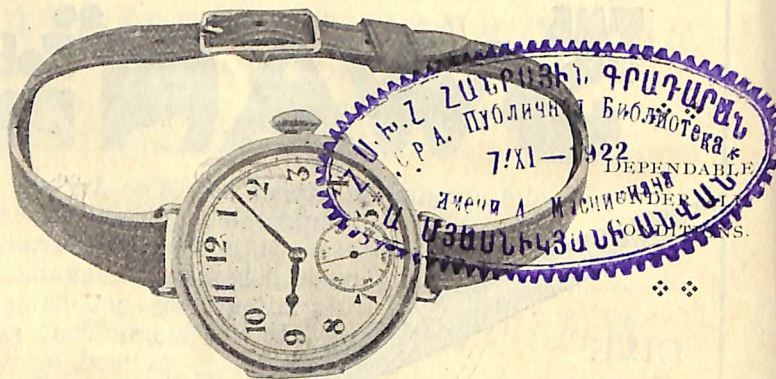
REPAIRS WITH ALL POSSIBLE DESPATCH.

A LARGE STAFF OF SKILLED WORKMEN THE PREMISES

WATCHMAKERS TO THE BRITISH ADMIRALTY.

ARMSTRONGS' "CAMPAIGN" WRISTLETS.

VISIBLE AT NIGHT.



THE IDEAL
WATCH FOR
SERVICE WEAR

These Watches are fitted with strong reliable Lever movements, extra
heavy dust-proof Silver Cases, removable or 'sewn on' solid Leather
Straps, and Silver Buckles.

Price with Plain Dial, from	-	£1 10 0
Price with Luminous Dial	-	1 17 6
In Nickel Cases, Price from	-	15 0

78, Deansgate, Manchester.
9, St. John Street, Manchester.
112, Bold Street, Liverpool.

AZNAVORIAN & SIVRISARIAN,

MANCHESTER.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

v

**"VALKASA" THE TONIC..
NERVE FOOD**

Restorative and Invigorating.

Invaluable in all cases of NERVOUS DEBILITY, ANÆMIA,
IMPAIRED DIGESTION, and in WASTING DISEASES.

In Tins 1/-, 3/- and 5/6 of all Chemists.

Manufacturers:

James Woolley, Sons & Co., Ltd., Manchester

CORE & JOHNSON,

Late Managers for Stephenson & Sons

Late Agents for Mappin & Webb (1908) Ltd.

Fifty-Four King St. West (NEXT TO WARING
AND GILLOW'S)
MANCHESTER.

Telephone: CITY

Telegrams: TOURMALINE, MANCHESTER

**Diamonds, Watches, Plate,
Jewellery, Sterling Silver
Clocks, Antiques, etc.**

**Mappin & Webb's "Princes Plate" and
"Trustworthy Cutlery."**



**SPECIAL...
TERMS...
TO...
SHIPPERS
AND...
LARGE...
USERS...**

The National Coat of Arms of Armenia.

A 12 colour gold and silver reproduction of an original drawn by M. A. YEGWARTIAN, A.I.I. (15in. by 18½in.). On thick card paper, 15/- a copy; ditto, signed and framed, 21/-, carriage paid.

N.B.—Beautiful photo-reproductions of "Mair Haiastan," "Battle of Vartanides," and other patriotic pictures, etc., also supplied.

Apply to M. A. YEGWARTH, 24, Goulden Road, Withington, Manchester.

THE SULTAN OF EGYPT CIGARETTES.

When you smoke these, you are not only enjoying the World's Best Cigarettes, but you are also smoking *patriotically*.

The Sultan of Egypt Cigarettes are hand-made, and the tobacco is blended by an expert.

The Sultan of Egypt Cigarette Co. is entirely an Armenian establishment, and the Managing Director, Mr. L. Tashjian, has decided to give half the profits to the Armenian Refugees' Fund on all orders coming through *Ararat*. Every time you buy them, therefore, you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping a good cause.

PRICE LIST.

No. 4	...	7/- per 100.	No. 6	...	5/6 per 100.
" 10	...	4/-	" 12	...	2/9
" 8 (Virginian)	3/6	"			

Delivered Post Free.

The Best that money can buy. Try them now.

Head Office:—1, Oxford Circus Avenue, London, W. (2 doors from Tube Station.)

ORIENTAL RESTAURANT.

Breakfasts, Dinners, Teas, Etc.

"Stamboul" Cigarettes and Tobacco. Turkish Coffee a Speciality.
POPULAR PRICES. Proprietor—SMPAD KESSEDJIAN.

16, ARTHUR STREET, off Tottenham Court Road, W.

Terms for advertisements in "Ararat." Apply to the Hon. Secretary, The Armenian United Association of London, 44, Queen's Road, Bayswater, London, W.

The Armenian United Association of London.

FOUNDED 1898. RECONSTRUCTED 1913.

General Council:

G. M. GREGORY, Lieut.-Col., V.D., *President*.

J. G. JOAKIM, *Vice-President*.

A. P. HACOBIAN, { *Vice-President and*
 { *Hon. Treasurer*.

J. A. CALANTAR, M.D., *Hon. Asst. Treas.*

M. BALIAN.

H. N. MOSDITCHIAN.

M. K. GUDENIAN, M.D., *Hon. Sec.*

S. P. STEPHENS.

D. ARSLANIAN.

This Association has been founded with the double object of (1) drawing together all Armenians in the British capital, bringing them into touch with the British public, and thus establishing a closer sympathy between the two nations; and (2) focussing in the centre of the civilised world the many questions, both social and national, which affect Armenia and the Armenians.

With the above objects in view, the Association is directing its energies to—

- (1) The establishment of a permanent habitation in London, which will embrace a hall for meetings, a reading-room and a library.
- (2) The organisation of social and literary gatherings.
- (3) The relief and education of Armenian orphans rendered destitute through chronic misrule in Armenia.
- (4) Watching the trend of political affairs affecting Armenia, and doing the utmost by pacific means towards the amelioration of the country and the people through (a) a Standing Committee, and by (b) the publication of literature.
- (5) The gradual raising of a fund for the establishment of an Armenian Church in London.

Membership is open to Armenians of both sexes.

Subscription:—Annual, 10/-; entrance fee, 5/-. Life Members, 5 guineas.

Sympathisers and friends of other nationalities are eligible for election as Hon. Members, but they have no voice in the management, and pay no subscriptions.

It will be evident that the above nominal subscription is just sufficient for the bare social functions of the Association. The more important functions are dependent for their success on the liberality of sympathisers, and donations are earnestly requested for the above national objects from those who are in a position to contribute. The response since the reorganisation of the Association has been very encouraging, but much more is needed to place the Association on a secure basis for prosecuting the work outlined above.

Communications affecting Membership, or any of the objects of the Association, should be addressed to

THE HON. SECRETARY,
44, Queen's Road,
Bayswater, London, W.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, MAPS, &c., CONNECTED WITH ARMENIA.

Armenia.—Its People, Sufferings and Demands. The British Armenia Committee, Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster, London. 1d.

The Friend of Armenia—Published quarterly. Annual subscription, 1s. 47, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

The Truth about Armenia, by EMILY J. ROBINSON. 1d., by post 1½d. One doz. copies, 1s., or 7/6 for 100 copies, post free. Apply to Miss Robinson, 35a, Elsham Road, Kensington, London, W.

Map of Turkish Armenia.—Enlarged edition of the Map appearing in this periodical, on cloth to fold, in cover, 1s. per copy. Apply to Assistant Secretary, The Armenian United Association, 44, Queen's Road, Bayswater, London, W.

The Armenian Church, by ARCHDEACON DOWLING, with an introduction by the late BISHOP OF SALISBURY. Published by the S.P.C.K., Northumberland Avenue, London, W.C. (Illustrated), Price 3/6.

The Church of Armenia—Her History, Doctrine, Rule. Discipline, Liturgy, Literature, and Existing Condition, by Mgr. Malachia Ormanian, translated by G. Marcar Gregory. V.D., 5s. net (postage 4d.). Apply to the translator, 36, Gunterstone Road, West Kensington, London, W.

Raffi's Works—Samuel, 8s.; Davit Beg, 8s.; Kaitzer I and II, 12s.; Khent, Djaleddin, 5s.; Khamsai Meliks, 5s.; Persia, 5s.; Khachakogh, 5s.; Salbi, 8s.; Tachkahajk, 3s.; Zahrumar, 5s. Apply Mrs. Raffi, 32, Richmond Gardens, Shepherd's Bush, London, W.

The People of Armenia.—A lecture delivered in Paris by Archag Tchobanian, translated into English by G. Marcar Gregory. Published by J. M. Dent & Sons, Ltd., London, 1s. 6d. net. Now ready. Copies in any number can also be had through the Assistant Secretary, Armenian United Association, 44, Queen's Road, Bayswater, London, W.

Travel and Politics in Armenia.—By NOEL BUXTON, M.P., and the Rev. HAROLD BUXTON. With an Introduction by Viscount Bryce, and a Contribution on ARMENIAN HISTORY AND CULTURE, by ARAM RAFFI. (*Smith, Elder.*) 5s. net.